Tasi Tours celebrates 41 years in the CNMI. PAGE 6
Villazor: There are DACA individuals in NMI, Guam. PAGE 7

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPE

ue No. 194

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75¢

Smithsonian institute releases birds on Rota

Erica Royer, animal keeper at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, releases a Guam rail to the wild on Rota.

SMITHSONIAN CONSERVATION BIOLOGY INSTITUTE

» Wild Guam rail population outnumbers captive population for first time in 32 years

Two female Guam rails born at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute in Front Royal, Va., were released to the wild in the CNMI last Sept. 18.

The two birds were repatriated to Guam from SCBI in March 2017, along with a third bird that will join the breeding program at the Guam Department of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources.

In total, 49 of the ground-dwelling birds were released on Rota by DAWR,

See BIRDS on Page 4

IN DOWNPLAYING CNMI'S LACK OF REVENUE DIVERSIFICATION

Torres: Casino ripple effect brings in other investments

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres downplayed a concern about a lack of diversification in the CNMI's source of revenue and its reliance on the casino industry, saying the casino itself is producing ripple effects.

In an interview on Wednesday, Torres said the casino brings in other investments.

"Now property value has increased. Now tourism has doubled," the governor pointed out.

He said the casino is an industry that has a ripple effect that brings in other revenues.

If one says the casino is just one industry, "well, it is a huge one and the

See TORRES on Page 4

Playboy magazine founder Hugh Hefner dies at 91

By ANDREW DALTON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hefner

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Playboy founder Hugh M. Hefner, the pipe-smoking hedonist who revved up the sexual revolution in the 1950s and built a multimedia empire of clubs, mansions, movies and television, symbolized by bow-tied women in bunny costumes, has died at age 91.

Hefner died of natural causes at his home surrounded by family on Wednesday night, Playboy said in a statement.

As much as anyone, Hefner helped slip sex out of

See PLAYBOY on Page 4

Baldwin ordered to pay $2.1M

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Bridge Capital LLC principal and chief executive officer John K. Baldwin was ordered yesterday to pay a $2 million tax and penalty capped at 15 percent arising from his investment in Claston, a limited liability company in Delaware.

Furthermore, the interest shall be calculated as having accrued from July 31, 2013, to Feb. 1, 2015, and from Aug. 15, 2006, up to present,

See BALDWIN on Page 4

1 DAY BEFORE THE END OF FISCAL YEAR 2017

INSIDE

SUPPLEMENT
The *Saipan Tribune* comes up with a supplement today on parenting tips.
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SCIENCE & TECH
StoryCorps is hoping people give their social media apps a break this Thanksgiving.
PAGE 36

LIFE & STYLE
The Saipan Young Professionals committee holds its 3rd quarter mixer.
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Local

Preparations for Pagan conference continues

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After being stalled by the untimely demise of the former Northern Islands mayor Jerome Kaipat Aldan, current NI Mayor Vicente Cruz Santos has decided to press ahead with a conference that will be held on Pagan.

Aldan had been working on preparations for the *Konferencian Dinana Islas Marianas* when he suddenly passed away in February this year.

The conference was envisioned to unite all the islands of the Marianas, including Guam, in one conference to discuss their shared historical background, similar customs, and traditions.

Holding it on Pagan would be a first.

The conference was originally set for April of this year but, due to his untimely passing, the preparation for the conference got stalled.

According to a KUAM story, Aldan visited the mayors of Guam to propose that they attend the conference so that participants could enjoy the beauty of the island that hasn't been visited since a volcanic eruption in 1981.

Many supported the proposal and it was one of the most anticipated conferences of the year, but it had been put on hold.

Yesterday, a meeting was held with CNMI mayors and members of the municipal councils of Rota, Tinian, and Saipan to decide whether the conference would be held on the island of Pagan, as was originally planned, or if it should be held on another island in the Marianas or even in Guam.

Santos raised some concerns during the meeting like the lack of facilities and many others, but Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang and the municipal councils of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota allayed many of Santos' fears. By the end of the meeting, Santos agreed to host the conference on Pagan.

Santos said his office has already started building a mayor's office on Pagan, a kitchen that can accommodate visitors, and other structures to accommodate visitors.

The grounds for visitation and ATVs are also ready for visitors who will be attending the conference.

Santos's main concern is that he hasn't established a working toilet system yet so he will be depending on portable facilities once participants arrive for the conference.

According to Santos, it should take seven months of preparation before he and the five residents of Pagan are ready for the upcoming conference.

A decision on the matter will be made official at the Association of Marianas Islands Mayors' meeting on Tinian in October.

Torres signs four bills into law

On Tuesday, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed:

■ House Bill 20-16, SD1, "To amend 7 CMC § 3101(a) to mandate when a jury is impanel to hear all felonies and misdemeanor charges; and for other purposes." This bill becomes Public Law 20-12.

■ Senate Bill 20-09, SD1, "To amend 1 CMC Section 8117(i); and for other purposes, which was passed by the 20th Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature. This bill becomes Public Law 20-13.

■ Senate Bill 20-48, "To amend 3 CMC § 1506 to change the position of administrative librarian to public library director; and for other purposes." This bill becomes Public Law 20-14.

■ Senate Bill 20-54, "To mandate all government corporations, autonomous agencies and regulatory agencies to submit their annual budget to the Office of the Governor, which shall be included in the Governor's annual budget proposal; to establish a penalty provision for the failure of such government entities to timely submit their annual budget to the Office of the Governor; and for other purposes." This bill becomes Public Law 20-15. ***(PR)***

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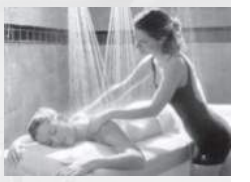

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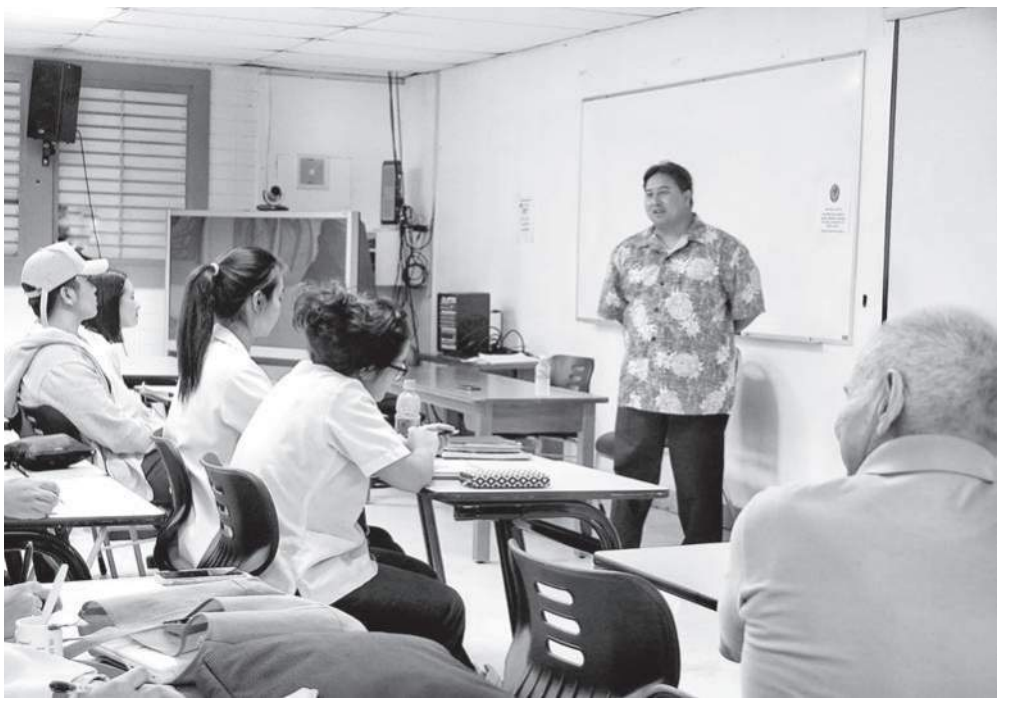
Torres eyes scholarship for medical students

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Gov. Ralph DLG Torres speaks in front of nursing students during a Current Issues class at the Northern Marianas College last Sept. 26.
BEA CABRERA

Using a portion of the nearly $20 million community contribution fund of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, the Torres administration wants to create scholarships for students pursuing medical and nursing degrees.

Speaking at the Current Issues class of nursing students at the Northern Marianas College last Sept. 26, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said that he and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog are looking into scholarships for nursing and doctor programs and $1 million from the community contribution fund can be allocated to it.

"We have been talking to some universities abroad such as University of Hawaii, University of Utah, and University of Washington medical school for a possible collaboration with the students here at NMC to open some slots for their doctor program. The idea is for the students to come back and practice here," he said.

Torres highlighted the importance of nurses in the CNMI, as there is currently a shortage at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. He cited the difficulty of getting nurses for Rota and Tinian.

One student said she is glad that the administration is planning to establish the scholarships for nurses because going to college is expensive.

She spends between $1,500 and $2,000 on uniforms alone. In anticipation of the National Council Licensure Examination that they are due to take in May 2018, students have been doing fundraising to help them with the costs. She asked the governor to contribute to their fundraising.

Torres asked the student how many are taking the NCLEX. When the students said 17, he was quick to assure everyone that he will pay for their tests.

"This is why we are proposing $1 million to go to the scholarship because this is going to go to the nurses' tuition and books," Torres said.

"It is critical. The nurses are the first people we see and we receive treatment from them at the hospital, that's why this is important. I look forward to it and what I would like to do is to talk about the plans with your director (Rosa Tudela, RN) and work with NMC president [Dr. Carmen Fernandez]," he added.

Torres said he is also working with NMC to give the college $2 million to finish construction work at the school.

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PLAYBOY

From Page 1

the confines of plain brown wrappers and into mainstream conversation.

In 1953, a time when states could legally ban contraceptives, when the word "pregnant" was not allowed on "I Love Lucy," Hefner published the first issue of Playboy, featuring naked photos of Marilyn Monroe (taken years earlier) and an editorial promise of "humor, sophistication and spice."

Playboy soon became forbidden fruit for teenagers and a bible for men with time and money, primed for the magazine's prescribed evenings of dimmed lights, hard drinks, soft jazz, deep thoughts and deeper desires. Within a year, circulation neared 200,000. Within five years, it had topped 1 million.

By the 1970s, the magazine had more than 7 million readers and had inspired such raunchier imitations as Penthouse and Hustler. Competition and the internet reduced circulation to less than 3 million by the 21st century, but Hefner and Playboy remained brand names worldwide.

Asked by The New York Times in 1992 of what he was proudest, Hefner responded: "That I changed attitudes toward sex. That nice people can live together now. That I decontaminated the notion of premarital sex. That gives me great satisfaction."

He was a widely admired but far from universally beloved figure. Many feminist and religious leaders regarded him as nothing but a glorified pornographer who degraded and objectified women with impunity.

Women were warned from the first issue: "If you're somebody's sister, wife, or mother-in-law," the magazine declared, "and picked us up by mistake, please pass us along to the man in your life and get back to Ladies Home Companion."

Hefner ran Playboy from his elaborate mansions, first in Chicago and then in Los Angeles, and became the flamboyant symbol of the lifestyle he espoused. For decades he was the pipe-smoking, silk-pajama-wearing center of a constant party with celebrities and Playboy models. By his own account, Hefner had sex with more than a thousand women.

Hefner was host of a television show, "Playboy After Dark," and in 1960 opened a string of clubs around the world where waitresses wore revealing costumes with bunny ears and fluffy white bunny tails. In the 21st century, he was back on television in a cable reality show—"The Girls Next Door"—with three live-in girlfriends in the Los Angeles Playboy mansion. Network television briefly embraced Hefner's empire in 2011 with the NBC drama "The Playboy Club," which failed to lure viewers and was canceled after three episodes.

Censorship was inevitable, starting in the 1950s, when Hefner successfully sued to prevent the U.S. Postal Service from denying him second-class mailing status. Playboy has been banned in China, India, Saudi Arabia and Ireland.

Playboy proved a scourge, and a temptation. Drew Barrymore, Farrah Fawcett and Linda Evans are among those who have posed for the magazine. Several bunnies became celebrities, too, including singer Deborah Harry and model Lauren Hutton, both of whom had fond memories of their time with Playboy.

Other bunnies had traumatic experiences, with several alleging they had been raped by Hefner's close friend Bill Cosby. Hefner issued a statement in late 2014 he "would never tolerate this behavior." But two years later, former bunny Chloe Goins sued Cosby and Hefner for sexual battery, gender violence and other charges over an alleged 2008 rape.

One bunny turned out to be a journalist: Feminist Gloria Steinem got hired in the early 1960s and turned her brief employment into an article for Show magazine that described the clubs as pleasure havens for men only. The bunnies, Steinem wrote, tended to be poorly educated, overworked and underpaid. Steinem regarded the magazine and clubs not as erotic, but "pornographic."

"I think Hefner himself wants to go down in history as a person of sophistication and glamour. But the last person I would want to go down in history as is Hugh Hefner," Steinem later said.

"Women are the major beneficiaries of getting rid of the hypocritical old notions about sex," Hefner responded. "Now some people are acting as if the sexual revolution was a male plot to get laid. One of the unintended by-products of the women's movement is the association of the erotic impulse with wanting to hurt somebody."

Hefner added that he was a strong advocate of First Amendment, civil rights and reproductive rights and that the magazine contained far more than centerfolds. Playboy serialized Ray Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451" and later published fiction by Doris Lessing and Vladimir Nabokov. Playboy also specialized in long and candid interviews, from Fidel Castro and Frank Sinatra to Marlon Brando and then-presidential candidate Jimmy Carter, who confided that he had "committed adultery" in his heart.

The line that people read Playboy for the prose, not the pictures, was only partly a joke.

Playboy's clubs also influenced the culture, giving early breaks to such entertainers as George Carlin, Rich Little, Mark Russell, Dick Gregory and Redd Foxx. The last of the clubs closed in 1988, when Hefner deemed them "passe" and "too tame for the times."

By then Hefner had built a $200 million company by expanding Playboy to include international editions of the magazine, casinos, a cable network and a film production company. In 2006, he got back into the club business with his Playboy Club at the Palms Casino in Las Vegas. A new enterprise in London followed, along with fresh response from women's groups, who protested the opening with cries of "Eff off Hef!""

Hefner liked to say he was untroubled by criticism, but in 1985 he suffered a mild stroke that he blamed on the book "The Killing of the Unicorn: Dorothy Stratten 1960-1980," by filmmaker Peter Bogdanovich. Stratten was a Playmate killed by her husband, Paul Snider, who then killed himself. Bogdanovich, Stratten's boyfriend at the time, wrote that Hefner helped bring about her murder and was unable to deal with "what he and his magazine do to women."

After the stroke, Hefner handed control of his empire to his feminist daughter, Christie, although he owned 70 percent of Playboy stock and continued to choose every month's Playmate and cover shot. Christie Hefner continued as CEO until 2009.

He also stopped using recreational drugs and tried less to always be the life of the party. He tearfully noted in a 1992 New York Times interview: "I've spent so much of my life looking for love in all the wrong places."

His bunny obsession began with the figures that decorated a childhood blanket. Years later, a real-life subspecies of rabbit on the endangered species list, in the Florida Keys, would be named for him: Sylvilagus palustris hefneri.

TORRES

From Page 1

biggest one," Torres said.

He pointed out that because of the casino industry on Saipan, the CNMI's revenue has increased altogether.

Tang earlier disclosed that the gross revenue tax from the Saipan casino has helped the CNMI government pay the Settlement Fund $1 million per week since December 2015, extending the Settlement Fund's investment horizon.

However, since it is not certain that this source of revenue will continue, and because of the CNMI government's lack of revenue diversification, relying too much on the casino gross revenue tax "is very risky," Tang said.

This was among the issues that Tang discussed in her report on the operation of the Settlement Fund from fiscal year 2016 through the third quarter of fiscal year 2017.

Tang made the presentation in the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Wednesday. Torres watched the presentation and was allowed by designated Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood to speak about the government's efforts in meeting the obligations to the Settlement Fund.

BIRDS

From Page 1

including the two birds born at SCBI.

This month's release marks the first time since 1985 that there are more individuals in the wild than there are in human care. There are 115 Guam rails in human care and approximately 200 in the wild.

Twenty-four middle school children from a local school on Rota were present at the release and participated in releasing some of the birds.

Island residents refer to the Guam rail by their Chamorro name which is *ko'ko.'*

In 1984, 21 Guam rails were captured in Guam to start a breeding and recovery program in human care.

The invasive brown tree snake has since extirpated them from the island along with eight other native bird species. The snake remains a challenging predator in Guam. Rota is free of brown tree snakes.

Guam rails have been officially classified as "extinct in the wild" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature since 1994, but small populations have been released on Rota and on Cocos Island since 1989.

SCBI received the first Guam rails to be transferred out of Guam for the breeding and recovery program in 1985.

All Guam rail chicks hatched at SCBI are slated for repatriation to Guam and eventual reintroduction to the wild.

SCBI breeds the birds according to recommendations from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' Guam Rail Species Survival Plan. The SSP makes breeding recommendations to preserve as much genetic diversity in the small population as possible.

SCBI plays a leading role in the Smithsonian's global efforts to save wildlife species from extinction and train future generations of conservationists.

SCBI spearheads research programs at its headquarters in Front Royal, Va., the Smithsonian's National Zoo in Washington, D.C., and at field research stations and training sites worldwide.

SCBI scientists tackle some of today's most complex conservation challenges by applying and sharing what they learn about animal behavior and reproduction, ecology, genetics, migration and conservation sustainability. ***(https://nationalzoo.si.edu/news/)***

BALDWIN

From Page 1

according to designated Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood of the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

The $2,085,902 is the same amount that the U.S. government had asked the court to declare that Baldwin owes. The U.S. government also asked the court to assess $312,885.30 in penalties.

Baldwin and Claston had asked the court to rule that the correct amount of base, pre-interest tax dollars that result from the disallowance of the Claston 2002 loss, is $1,904,790.

Baldwin and Claston, through counsel Deborah Deitsch-Perez and Michael Dotts, also asked the court to rule that interest only accumulated on this amount from the date of the return until Feb. 1, 2005, or in the alternative, from the date of the return until Feb. 1, 2005 and again from July 18, 2008 until payment.

Baldwin and the U.S. government are still finalizing a settlement to resolve his $5 million federal tax refund lawsuit.

A court's ruling on two remaining issues will enable the parties to finally complete calculations and conclude the settlements in the two lawsuits that Baldwin filed against the U.S. government.

Tydingco-Gatewood's ruling yesterday resolved such two issues—the amount of tax that flows through Claston to Baldwin and will be deducted from his tax refund, and when interest accrued on the unpaid taxes.

Tydingco-Gatewood said the Internal Revenue Service concluded that Baldwin's income exclusive of the Claston-related taxes exceeded $307,050, and therefore all taxes resulting from the disallowed Claston loss were subject to the 38.6 percent tax rate.

The judge said because Baldwin and Claston have failed to demonstrate that the IRS erred in calculating Baldwin's income or other tax obligations, Baldwin and Claston have failed to rebut the presumption of correctness as to the IRS' application of the 36.6 tax rate.

Tydingco-Gatewood determined that interest began to accrue on Aug. 15, 2006.

According to Joseph A. Sergi, senior litigation counsel for U.S. Department of Justice Tax Division, Baldwin or Claston previously made a settlement offer to the U.S. government in the two cases, which would resolve all of the issues in both cases.

Sergi said the U.S. government accepted the offer.

In the course of discussing the calculations necessary to effectuate the settlement, two issues arose.

First, Sergi said, the parties were unable to reach an agreement on the amount of tax that flows from the Claston partnership to its partner, Baldwin.

Second, Sergi said, the parties disagree whether interest on the underpayment of tax should be reduced under section 6404 of the Internal Revenue Code for the period from July 24, 2006, through July 9, 2008.

Sergi asked the court to find that the U.S. government's calculation of tax and penalty is correct and that there is no interest suspension after Aug. 14, 2006, because that is when Baldwin received a notice that the IRS was contesting the validity of Claston's tax shelter.

In Baldwin's and Claston's brief, Deitsch-Perez and Dotts said this is a federal tax dispute that was settled in 2012 when the U.S. government agreed that a $4,060,000 (plus interest) tax refund was due to Baldwin after the U.S. government had wrongfully demanded, and Baldwin had paid, approximately $5 million in taxes that the U.S. government eventually conceded were in large part not due.

Baldwin then agreed that any amount due as a result of the resolution of the Claston case could be deducted from his refund.

Deitsch-Perez and Dotts said after resolving several other disagreements about the computation of the net refund due to Baldwin, the parties join in seeking a ruling from the court on the two outstanding issues.

Lawmakers donate supplies to Oleai and Garapan ES

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Reps. Francisco Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) and Jose Itibus (R-Saipan) donated mowing and school supplies to the Garapan and Olei elementary schools yesterday.

The Precinct 3 representatives visited both schools to donate brand new lawn tractors and cases of crayons, markers, and notebooks.

Dela Cruz, who pushed for the new lawn tractors mowers for GES and OES, said that has so far donated five lawn tractors to schools under his jurisdiction throughout his five terms.

Dela Cruz said these tractors benefit the students and the school staff while maintaining the aesthetic appearance of these facilities.

Being a parent, the wellbeing and safety of children are a major part of his priorities, he said.

Itibus, for his part, donated cases of crayons, markers, and notebooks, enough for every classroom, according to GES principal Leila Yumul.

According to her, the donation to GES is a greatly appreciated because there is always a need for school supplies. With the donation, GES students will be more engaged in the classroom, she said.

OES principal Jasylene Parico shared the same enthusiasm and appreciation for the donations.

According to Parico, they are fortunate because legislative representatives continue to show their support to these schools.

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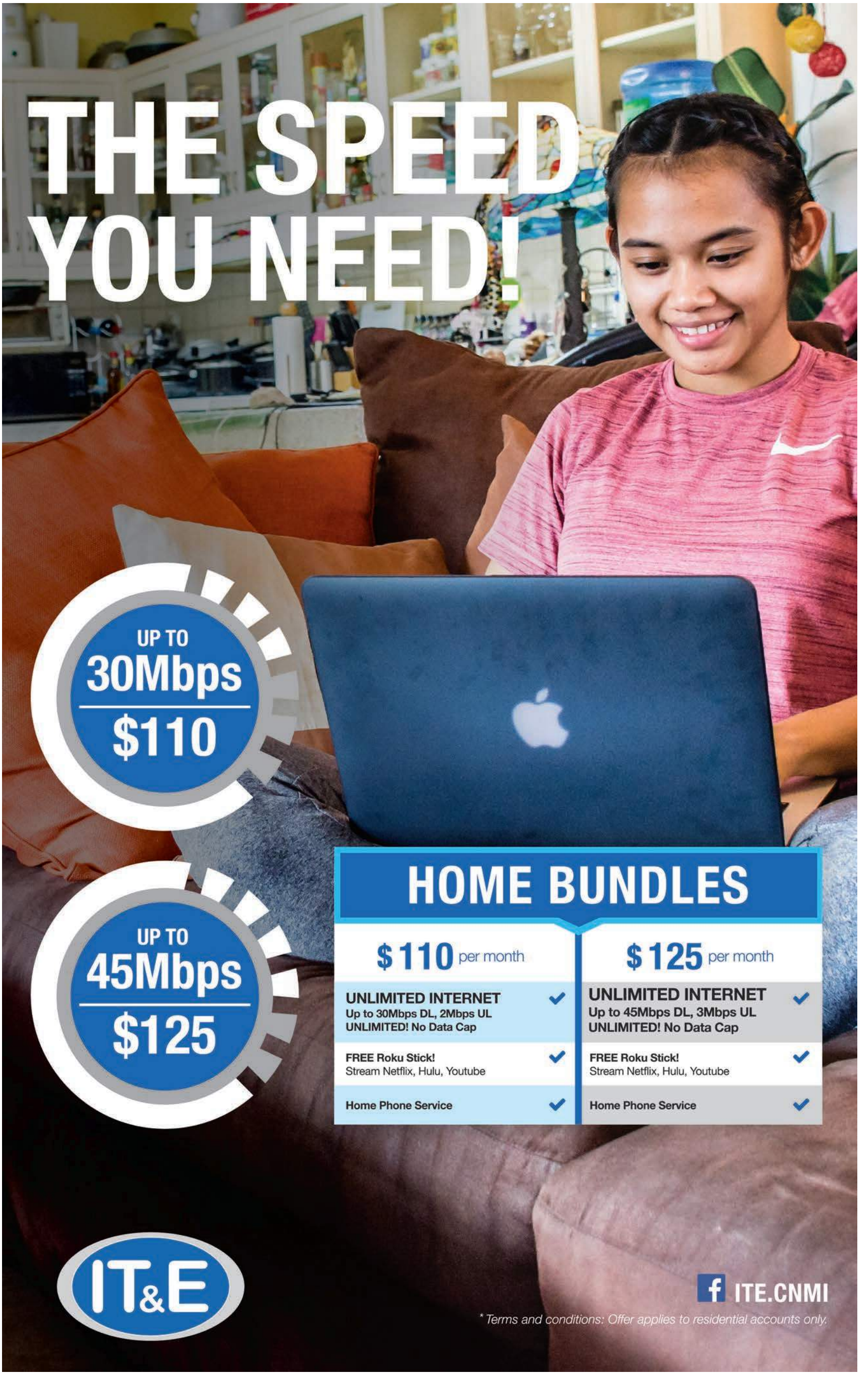


Tasi Tours celebrates 41 years in the CNMI

BEA CABRERA

From left, David Igitol, Tasi Tours director, and Masato Tezuka, Tasi Tours president.

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune
REPORTER

This year marks Tasi Tours' 41st year in the tourism business in the CNMI.

The Japanese company already holds the distinction of being the first foreign investor and the longest running foreign business in the Commonwealth and Tasi Tours intends to do so for many more years.

"For Tasi Tours, we would like to be one of the top local 100 companies in the CNMI," said Tasi Tours president Masato Tezuka.

Tasi Tours already holds the distinction of being owned by JTB Corp., the largest travel agency in Japan, and one of the largest travel agencies in the world.

Its two main businesses in the CNMI are the coach bus/transport business and the tours in Managaha.

The transportation business is centered on the transport of inbound tourists. It has 19 large buses, 10 medium-sized buses, five vans, two limousines, and a sedan.

Since 1989, Tasi Tours has been managing and operating on Managaha Island. The concession agreement between the Department of Public Lands and Tasi Tours is currently under negotiations.

"Managaha is the jewel of Saipan. It is very important to both residents and tourists and is one of the very well-protected places on Saipan. We would like to keep it that way—preserve its natural beauty and maintain and sustain it for residents and tourists," said Tezuka.

Tasi Tours has been a very important partner of the CNMI and it intends to continue that in the future.

"We would like to contribute to the society. We'd like to enhance the beauty and branding of the CNMI to the world. We cannot do everything all at once but we would like to do as much as we can," Tezuka said.

Five years ago, when the economy and tourism industry of Saipan was not so rosy, Tezuka came up with a concept for the CNMI called "Flower Island."

"We have this idea of making Saipan known as the Flower Island. …There are so many islands around the world and, like the CNMI, they have beautiful oceans, with many activities and beautiful nature [scenes]. So I asked myself, how can Saipan stand out?" Tezuka asked.

"So the idea of maybe calling Saipan the Flower Island would work as there is no other island branded as Flower Island in the world. The garden concept is nation building," he added.

Tezuka worked on the concept and hired a professional landscape designer from Singapore. Together they presented the idea to the late governor Eloy S. Inos and it was positively received.

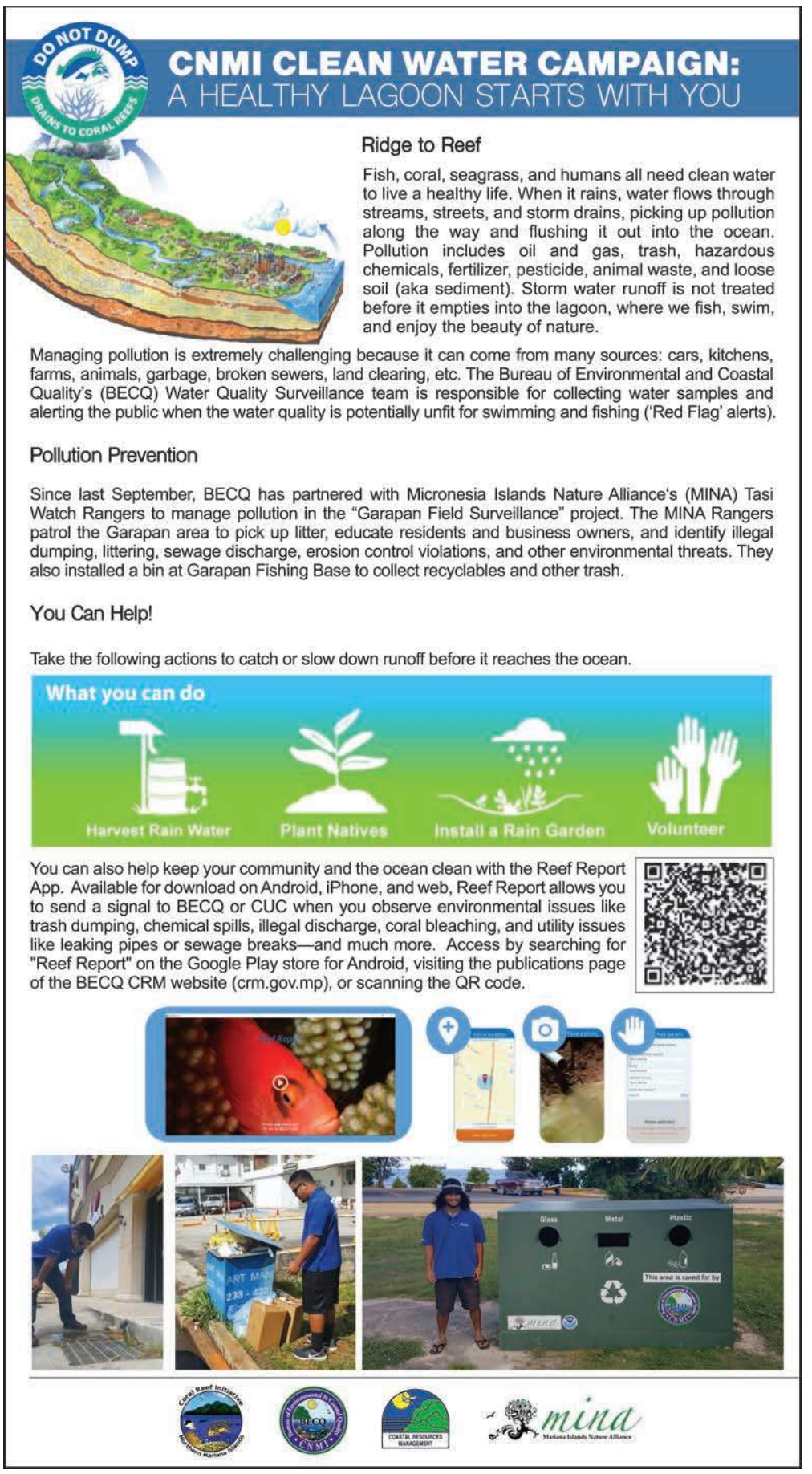
"It did not materialize during that time because sadly, Gov. Inos passed away and then Soudelor happened. So the idea was set aside."

"However seven months ago, we had a meeting with a professional designer from Japan and the Marianas Visitors Authority, represented by managing director Chris Concepcion, and it was welcomed. We have expanded the intention of the project," he added.

According to Tezuka, the Flower Island project is for all the islands of the CNMI. MVA wants this project to materialize, he said.

Tezuka assures the public that they can expect more ideas and projects to come from Tasi Tours.

"We promise our customers to provide safe, high-quality services, and to assist in customers' experience of Saipan to the fullest. A lot of investment is going on on Saipan but, from our point of view, we would like to be consistent and add more value to the CNMI," Tezuka said.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Managing pollution is extremely challenging because it can come from many sources: cars, kitchens, farms, animals, garbage, broken sewers, land clearing, etc. The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality's (BECQ) Water Quality Surveillance team is responsible for collecting water samples and alerting the public when the water quality is potentially unfit for swimming and fishing ('Red Flag' alerts).
Pollution Prevention
Since last September, BECQ has partnered with Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance's (MINA) Tasi Watch Rangers to manage pollution in the "Garapan Field Surveillance" project. The MINA Rangers patrol the Garapan area to pick up litter, educate residents and business owners, and identify illegal dumping, littering, sewage discharge, erosion control violations, and other environmental threats. They also installed a bin at Garapan Fishing Base to collect recyclables and other trash.
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You can also help keep your community and the ocean clean with the Reef Report App. Available for download on Android, iPhone, and web, Reef Report allows you to send a signal to BECQ or CUC when you observe environmental issues like trash dumping, chemical spills, illegal discharge, coral bleaching, and utility issues like leaking pipes or sewage breaks—and much more. Access by searching for "Reef Report" on the Google Play store for Android, visiting the publications page of the BECQ CRM website (crm.gov.mp), or scanning the QR code.
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Villazor: There are DACA individuals in NMI, Guam

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite being islands, both the CNMI and Guam also have individuals with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals status, according to a visiting law professor.

Rose Cuison Villazor, a professor at the University of California at Davis School of Law, said that she spoke with some lawyers on Saipan three years ago who informed her about some people who applied for DACA.

She does not know if these people are still in the CNMI, but Villazor said her understanding was that those DACA applications were filed.

The subject of DACA, President Donald Trump's travel ban, and U.S. immigration law were Wednesday's focus in the ongoing four-day Pacific Judicial biennial conference at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's Hibiscus Hall.

Created by the Obama administration in 2012, DACA, an immigration policy, allowed some individuals who entered the country as minors, and had either entered or remained in the country illegally, to receive a renewable two-year period of deferred action from deportation and to be eligible for a work permit.

Saying it is unconstitutional, the Trump administration rescinded DACA this month.

As of 2017, approximately 800 individuals were enrolled in the DACA program—colloquially referred to as Dreamers.

In an interview after her presentation on Wednesday, Villazor said that immigration law is one of the most significant areas of law right now.

"It affects millions of people in the United States. It is important to know about the travel ban and DACA," said Villazor, who was set to talk about sanctuary cities at the PJC conference yesterday.

The professor said that most of the PJC participants—judges, justices, and lawyers—know the legal issues but it is always good to get a refresher and to know "where we are right now with the development of these important cases."

She said that DACA and the guest worker issues here in the CNMI are part of a bigger immigration picture.

Villazor, who described the U.S. immigration system as broken, said: "We have a law that was passed in 1952 and has been amended many times." What is needed, she said, is comprehensive immigration reform that will also address the status of long-term guest workers in the CNMI.

"When I talked about DACA, it was about the context of the revocation and how that impacted all people in the United States, to include five territories, including the CNMI," she said.

Villazor said the revocation of DACA means that if affected individuals are not able to renew their status within the allocated time, they will become unauthorized.

Villazor grew up on Saipan and graduated at Mt. Carmel School. After college, she went back to Mt. Carmel to teach, then went to law school. Since becoming a law professor, she has come back to Saipan twice to teach the CNMI Judiciary's pre-law program.

"It is always great to be able to come back and see families and friends and contribute to the legal discussions here in the CNMI," Villazor said.

It was the first time for Villazor to serve as a speaker at the PJC conference. "I am really grateful for the opportunity to be here. I am honored to participate in this conference," she said.

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TOYS 4 TOTS CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Saipan Young Professionals partners with TanHoldings Corp. for the Inaugural Toys 4 Tots Campaign on Saipan. The members of the Saipan Young Professionals are excited to organize a generous outpouring of toys for our island's children with the support of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce member businesses and the community.

Rota senator still holds out hope for tractor, healthcare personnel

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

One of three senators representing the island of Rota hopes that the needs of the island's healthcare personnel as well as the purchase of a tractor would be addressed soon.

Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that she hopes the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board will "seriously consider" the three positions that were vetoed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres last Tuesday in the enactment of the fiscal year 2018 budget.

Originally a Senate amendment that passed the bicameral conference committee, CHCC was directed to hire at least one physician, one physician assistant, and one nurse practitioner for the Rota Health Center—if the center fails to hire at least two physicians. The provision also called for CHCC to hire a dental assistant.

Torres on Tuesday disapproved these provisions.

Santos, who chairs the Senate Health and Welfare Committee, remains hopeful that the newly formed CHCC board would look into these positions.

Santos cited the "increasing number of both inpatients and outpatients" as well as the need for a dentist to justify the additional hires.

Torres' comments and reasoning behind many of the disapproved provisions specified that the administration wishes to give "the CHCC the flexibility to address the staffing needs critical to all hospitals."

Sen. Paul Mangloña (Ind-Rota) did not respond to a request for comments as of press time.

According to CHCC CEO Esther Muña, there are currently two physicians at the Rota Health Center.

Rota depends on farming

Santos also emphasized Rota's reliance on farming for food. A tractor could "assist [Rota] farmers with land clearing, cultivating, and harvesting agricultural produce."

Torres disapproved the purchase of two tractors, one each for Rota and Tinian. His veto blocked a total of $500,000 that would have been taken from the Marianas Visitors Authority's budget.

Santos said an alternative source of funds could be identified to buy the equipment for Rota.

"Majority of our people are farmers who rely heavily on subsistence farming to augment their living due to the high cost of food and commodities," she said.

Torres thinks the $500,000 could best be used for tourism advertising and "promotion designed to increase the number of visitors" to Rota and Tinian.

Rota budget hike

Compared to fiscal year 2017, the current Rota budget sees an increase of 8.45-percent, jumping from roughly $7.6 million in fiscal year 2017 to over $8.1 million in fiscal year 2018.

The Rota Mayor's Office itself will receive over $2.9 million in fiscal year 2018—a slight decrease. The office received a little over $3.1 million in fiscal year 2017.

The Rota Municipal Council received a minute budget cut of over $150. It will get $304,031 in fiscal year 2018; it previously received $304,188.

Rota's Department of Public Safety and the Rota Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services both received substantial budget increases for fiscal year 2018.

Rota DPS will receive roughly $1.3 million this fiscal year while in the previous fiscal year it received $912,686. The Rota DPS budget increased by 39.3 percent from the prior fiscal year.

Rota DFEMS received a 43.4-percent increase compared to fiscal year 2017. This fiscal year, Rota DFEMS will receive $820,095 compared the previous $571,831.

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Micronesia Challenge:

The IMPORTANCE OF Community

By: Katelynn Delos Reyes
2017 Micronesia Challenge Young Champion

Community involvement is important for the continued protection of the CNMI's natural resources. The Micronesia Challenge highlights our natural resources and communicates the importance of the community's participation during every event and project. Here are some ways you can actively participate in sustaining our land and sea:

Plant A Tree!

The Department of Agriculture encourages the community to visit their location in Kagman and pick up two native trees, which you can plant in your own yard. Native plants are the foundation of our island ecosystem and safeguard our biodiversity. Planting native species also ensures the survival of the species that have been on our islands since the beginning.

Micronesia Challenge Club:

Start A Chapter

Clubs and organizations have the ability to incite change within a community. By creating a new chapter of the MCC, your division will continue the work of the Micronesia Challenge within your village. The very first chapter of the MCC is a student group established in 2015 at Tanapag Middle School. So far, the group has actively participated in rain garden planting, beach clean-ups and other community awareness projects. To find out more about starting a new MCC chapter please contact the Micronesia Challenge Young Champion, Katelynn Delos Reyes, at (670) 664-9501 or visit www.cnmicoralreef.com

Educate Yourself!

Being a member of this community means knowing what surrounds you and how to protect it. From the land to the sea, every species is significant to our island culture and our way of life. It's the knowledge on the topic that can truly help the community become more aware of what is happening to our natural resources and how they can become involved in securing its' future.

For more information or background material on any of the following, please feel free to contact the Micronesia Young Champion, Katelynn Delos Reyes at (670) 664-9501. Visit www.cnmicoralreef.com and check us out on Facebook at CNMI Micronesia Challenge.

"The Land & the Sea are the Pride of our Culture"

For more information about the CNMI Micronesia Challenge contact Katelynn Delos Reyes, Micronesia Young Champion at 664-8500 or visit www.cnmicoralreef.com.

Public participation sought in development of land use plan

The Department of Public Lands encourages the public to participate in the development of the CNMI Comprehensive Public Land Use Plan Update by providing feedback regarding needs and concerns for activities on public lands such as development, homestead, commercial leasing, and cultural, economic or environmental preservation, to name a few.

The land use plan will guide DPL in the management, use, development, and disposition of public lands.

Due to the economic growth of the CNMI, there is now more demand for commercial development on public land. Public lands are arguably the most critical resource of the CNMI and it is therefore of significant interest to CNMI residents to tell DPL how they want public lands to be used.

Upon completion and adoption of the land use plan, DPL will have a basis in decision and policymaking in allocation and utilization of public lands.

In an effort to obtain maximum public participation, DPL, along with its consultant, SSFM, CNMI LLC and subconsultants, Chris Hart & Partners and John M. Knox, held public hearings last week on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan. The land use plan team also met with key stakeholders from both the private and public sector to include all mayors in the CNMI, both legislative bodies, and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

To learn more and submit comments, visit www.dpl.gov.mp/land-use-plan-resources/ to retrieve a stakeholder form, which can be submitted to rreyes@ssfmcnmillc.com and jhart@chpmaui.com.

There will be a second round of public hearings tentatively set for March 2018. DPL, through its land use plan team, will reveal the land use plan draft before the hearings to allow for review before soliciting public comment.

DPL awarded the contract to update the land use plan to SSFM CNMI, LLC and executed the contract on Aug. 11, 2017. The plan is estimated to take a year to complete and will serve as a roadmap for management, use, development, and disposition of public lands. The land use plan will cover all public lands in the CNMI and will have a 10-year horizon.

For details visit www.dpl.gov.mp/, www.facebook.com/DPLCNMI/ or call (670) 234-3751. ***(PR)***

Vanuatu orders evacuation of island with rumbling volcano

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Vanuatu officials on Thursday ordered the complete evacuation of an island in the Pacific archipelago where a rumbling, belching volcano is threatening to blow.

Government spokesman Hilaire Bule said ministers decided they couldn't risk people's lives and so ordered the compulsory evacuation of Ambae island, which is home to about 11,000 people.

Island resident Lilian Garae said she could see "smoke coming out from the hills" and hear regular booming noises from the Manaro volcano. She said she was waiting to hear when she might have to leave her home and where she might be sent.

Ambae is one of about 65 inhabited islands in the Pacific nation about one-quarter of the way from Australia to Hawaii.

Officials last weekend raised the activity measure of the volcano to Level 4, on a scale in which Level 5 represents a major eruption. On Monday officials declared an emergency and had been relocating people close to the volcano to other parts of the island.

New Zealand's military flew over the volcano on Tuesday, and said huge columns of smoke, ash and volcanic rocks were billowing from the crater.

Some residents have already left the island voluntarily. For them, it's a waiting game to see whether the volcano erupts or returns to normal activity that's not a threat. Officials say they have no real way of predicting what the volcano will do next and that evacuees will just have to wait it out.

Bule said the evacuation will be carried out by boat and continue through Oct. 6. He said residents will be moved onto nearby islands. Officials are setting up two sites on Pentecost Island, he said, where evacuees will be housed in government buildings or in temporary camp sites.

Dickinson Tevi, a spokesman for the Vanuatu Red Cross Society, said the relief agency has been shipping water and shelter equipment to Ambae island.

"People are quite afraid with the sound of rumbling going on," he said. "They are very uncertain and afraid."

Bule said the government had allocated 200 million vatu ($1.9 million) toward the evacuation effort and was deploying 60 police officers to help people leave and to ensure there was no looting.

"We've prepared for cyclones by putting evacuation centers on the island but we are not ready for a volcanic eruption," Bule said. "The government has to put a policy in place to cater for this in the future."

Vanuatu is home to about 280,000 people.

One bus is already on island, more to follow, says Torres

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A pilot program for a public transportation system on Saipan may be expected in a few weeks, according to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

Torres said the delays are caused mostly due to the delivery of buses to Saipan. He did, however, said that bus stations have already been mapped out along Saipan.

"There are a couple things going on. One is the arrival of the bus[es], how many do we need to start the transportation [and whether] it's for part-time or a pilot project," said Torres.

A structure to house the buses have already been identified and funded at Lower Base, just north of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

"I hope within the next couple of weeks, we have a clearer understanding when to start," he said, adding that bus stations have already been designated.

"We are just waiting for the other buses to arrive," he added.

The proposed public transportation system will be under the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority.

As of now, the proposed system has only one bus on island. Torres believes that it is more feasible to wait for more buses to arrive rather than have that one bus run the whole system by itself, making bus trips with a one-hour interval per route.

"We prefer to have two or three buses to lower the waiting period and to [provide] more services," he said.

The new transportation system is the Commonwealth government's answer to growing traffic congestion on the island, especially near schools, offices, and the Garapan tourist district.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, COTA is being assisted by the Department of Public Works in finalizing the public transportation system. DPW also handles traffic plans for the Garapan area, which has been seeing increased foot and vehicular traffic.

'Money should follow the students'

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite the clear allocation of funds in the budget that was signed into law last Tuesday, a senior Board of Education official believes that the CNMI government should stick to the mandated 25-percent share of the Public School System.

At the Board of Education meeting last Wednesday, it was established that PSS asked for a budget of $54 million for fiscal year 2018. What it got was $36.4 million.

Now, Board of Education member Herman T. Guerrero wants to know what happened to the $15 million and is pressing for a supplemental budget that will give PSS what it wants.

"What is keeping the governor in identifying the funds the PSS is entitled to?" asked Guerrero.

The CNMI Constitution mandates that PSS is entitled to 25 percent of general fund revenues and 25 percent of casino generated gross revenue tax.

"The problem is, we don't even know how much has been collected from the casino BGRT. There are no records or documents. I thought I read in the paper that the casino's gross was $1 billion. If this is the case, how come those things are not being reported and how much BGRT out of that should be allocated to PSS?"

"Only the governor and [the Department of] Finance seem to be the ones that know the figures. If the governor is not sharing the figures to the Legislature then we can't help but think that even the Legislature is speculating," he added.

"They shouldn't do that because that's irresponsible…on the part of Legislature. They are supposed to be different branches of the government. If the Legislature doesn't want to be independent of the Executive Branch, perhaps we should abolish the Legislature," he said.

The board has already approved a plan to increase the salaries of teachers. What's needed is funding.

"We cannot improve student learning if we have issues. It also means we have to satisfy the teachers and support staff. At the end of the day, it is students first. Money should follow students and teachers, that's why we are adjusting the salary of teachers," Guerrero said.

The board still plans to submit certified questions to the Supreme Court.

"We are certainly filing the certified questions. We still need to do that. Our counsel is still working, putting the language together and the brief that needs to be presented to the Supreme Court," Guerrero said.

According to PSS legal counsel Tiberius Mocanu, identifying the certified questions was part of the board's action at the last special board meeting.

"The questions were approved at the last board meeting and when it is complete, we will file," he said.

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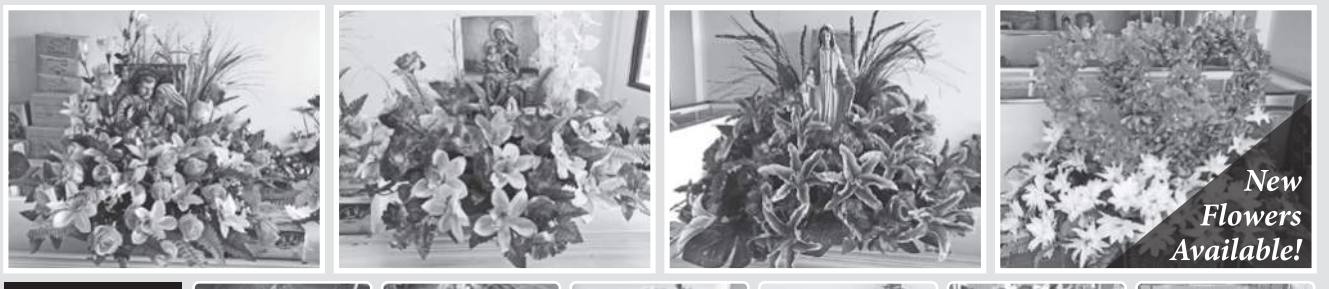

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Public invited to DVAM events, proclamation

October is nationally and locally recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month; 2017 marks the 23rd year that DVAM has been recognized in the CNMI.

As part of DVAM, the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence and the Family Violence Task Force would like to invite the public to take part in the proclamation signing ceremony next week and other DVAM events throughout October.

The proclamation signing will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2017, at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall.

The ceremony will have October 2017 recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the CNMI, feature guest speakers, and showcase exhibits from different community programs.

This year's recipient of the Bridge of Light award will also be presented at the DVAM proclamation signing.

A Day of Unity will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017, from 1pm to 7pm at the Dandan baseball field. This family fun event will feature activity and information booths, musical and dance entertainment, the Men's Walk Against Domestic Violence around 5pm, and a candlelight vigil for victims of domestic violence at 6pm.

The first 200 Day of Unity participants will also be able to receive a free DVAM T-shirt and other incentives. Raffle prizes will also be given out.

In addition, two Walk & Roll Against Domestic Violence events are scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2017, in Susupe (starting at the Mount Carmel Cathedral parking lot) and Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2017, in Chinatown (starting at the Chinatown basketball court).

Registration for participants will be at 5pm with the walk starting at 5:30pm. The first 100 participants will receive a free DVAM 2017 T-shirt. Walk & Roll event participants also are encouraged to bring signs or banners to help spread awareness of domestic violence.

This year's DVAM theme "Break the Cycle. Heal Generations" was chosen by the DVAM committee and will be discussed along with other topics related to domestic violence on KKMP 92.1 FM on Tuesday mornings starting on Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2017, throughout the month. The DVAM committee will also appear on the Marianas Agupa' radio show on 101.3 Magic FM on Saturday, Oct. 7, 2017.

More information on DVAM events happening on Tinian and Rota will be forthcoming.

For more information, contact NMCADSV at (670) 234-3878 or email info@endviolencenmi.org or contact FVTF at 664-4583/4584. For more updates and news, follow NMCADSV on Facebook (@nmcadsv), Twitter (@EndViolenceNMI) and Instagram (@nmcadsv). ***(PR)***

War
in the
Pacific
A Difficult Heritage
Our heritage is our past. It is the reminder of who we are, where we came from, and can even give us clues to where we are going. War in the Pacific will engage veterans of contemporary wars, surviving civilian participants of WWII, and families of veterans in considering how war and its difficult heritage can be seen as universal to humanity and how it can be used to understand the veteran's experience and even heal and renew.
Join us in exploring the history of two significant conflicts in the Mariana Islands, the Spanish-Chamorro Wars and WWII, as we look at books, films, poetry, archaeological sites, artifacts, and more to explore the shared human experience of war.
October 2,3,5 & 9 6-8:30pm
& October 7 9am-5pm
FREE but spaces are limited
* A reader and refreshments will be provided. A certificate of completion and challenge coin will be presented at a commencement ceremony.
All activites will take place at American Memorial Park unless otherwise noted.
https://cnmiheritage.wordpress.com/
Contact: Humanities Council @ 1(670)235-4785 or Dr. Jen McKinnon @ mckinnonje@ecu.edu
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE Humanities
East Carolina UNIVERSITY
Northern Marianas Humanities Council
Navigating the Human Experience

Artists, calligraphers, and designers from Korea visited the island of Rota for inspiration on Dec. 28-29, 2016. Bisita Luta will be held on Oct. 5-7, 2017, offering a variety of activities for visitors.

MVA

Off-island bands to join Bisita Luta festivities

Off-island bands are taking advantage of the opportunity to play the "Friendly Island" in the Marianas during Bisita Luta on Oct. 5-7, 2017.

According to organizers, the public concert on Oct. 6 will feature Northern Star Band from Saipan and 5 on It Band from Guam. Bisita Luta (visit Rota) will also include a fiesta, a fishing derby and more.

"The Marianas Visitors Authority is pleased to be a sponsor of Bisita Luta again this year and look forward to joining the Rota Mayor's Office in welcoming visitors next week," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "We recently brought in Taiwanese and Russia media to attend the Rota Coconut Festival because we know Rota has its own unique charms that appeal to many visitors. We continue to work to bring more visitors to the island."

Most festivities will take place at the Chamorro Village Park in Songsong.

On Oct. 5, there will be a Night Market and Street Dance Competition at 7pm. Fisherman participating in the next day's Bud Light Fishing Derby will have an orientation at West Harbor Marina at 5pm. The Bud Light Fishing Derby will kick off the following day, Oct. 6.

The Night Market will feature the Binadu Festival and Rota Wildlife Showcase beginning at 6pm. The *binadu* (Philippine deer) roam wild on Rota and are a local delicacy. The public concert is also set for that evening at the Rota Chamorro Village Park.

In honor of Songsong's patron saint, San Francisco de Borja, a Mass will be held on Oct. 7, Saturday, at San Francisco de Borja Parish at 3:30pm, followed by dinner and entertainment. The Bud Light Fishing Derby will continue that day, with awards presented at the fiesta grounds.

The weekend event is organized by the Rota Mayor's Office with support from Rota Municipal Council, Rota Legislative Delegation, the MVA, IT&E, Ambros Inc., Imperial Pacific International, and Rota governmental departments, in partnership with the San Francisco de Borja Fiesta Committee and Parish Council.

For more information, contact special assistant for Programs and Grants Aubry Hocog of the Rota Mayor's Office at 532-9451 or aubry-hocog@gmail.com or Sandra Atalig of the MVA at 532-0327 or satalig@mymarianas.com. ***(MVA)***

Club 200 tickets go on sale

Tickets for the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter's annual signature fundraiser, the Club 200, are now on sale.

Tickets are $100 per person.

The theme is "By the Sea" so community members are urged to join the fun in nautical-inspired attire.

John Hirsh, the chapter's executive director, said this year's Club 200 will be held at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan on Oct. 28, 2017, from 6pm to 10pm. Doors open at 5pm.

"The American Red Cross is carrying out relief efforts at unprecedented levels following the devastation [wrought by] hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria," Hirsh said.

Volunteers from the NMI Chapter have been activated to assist with the ongoing relief efforts that are expected to last months.

Hirsh said the Red Cross is grateful to the community for its support for over two decades now. "Every year, we are overwhelmed with the generosity of our donors and community members. Club 200 is a great opportunity for people to invite friends and family to enjoy a delicious meal, great entertainment, get a chance to win lots of attractive prizes while supporting a worthwhile cause" he added.

Proceeds from the Club 200 enables the Red Cross to fulfill its mission such as the smoke alarm installation, disaster response, training sessions and other community programs.

Club 200 tickets are available for sale at Herman's Modern Bakery, Mita Travel, Bridge Capital, LLC, and the American Red Cross office on Airport Road.

For more information, visit the Red Cross office on Airport Road or our Facebook page, American Red Cross–Northern Mariana Islands Chapter, or call 234-3459. ***(PR)***

We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes

Special Thanks

to the Northern Mariana Islands community, most especially the following businesses, departments, agencies and individuals:

16th Rota Municipal Council
Alexis Hofschneider, Tinian Mayor's Office
Aubry Hocog, Rota Mayor's Office
Bella Maratita
Bobbie Camacho
Bridge Capital, LLC
Captain Anthony Macaranas, DPS
Captain James Burke, KHS JROTC
Chief Ranger Jason Tinney, National Park Service
CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Commonwealth Cancer Association
Commonwealth Ports Authority
Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services - Tinian
Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS)
Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services - Rota
Department of Public Safety
Department of Public Safety - Rota
Department of Public Safety - Tinian
Dexter Apatang
DFEMS Fire Cadets
Division of Customs, Department of Finance - Rota
Division of Fish & Wildlife, Department of Lands & Natural Resources - Rota
DPS Tinian Director Matthew Masga
Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr./Sr. High School JROTC Buck Battalion
Erika Mendiola, Mount Carmel School STUCO President
Esther Yatar
Eulalia V. Arriola, Veterans Advocate
Father Rey Rosal, San Jose Catholic Church Tinian
Grace Christian Academy National Honor Society
Honorable Governor Ralph Torres
Honorable Lieutenant Governor Victor Hocog
Honorable Mayor David Apatang
Honorable Mayor Efraim Atalig
Honorable Mayor Joey San Nicolas
J.E.T. Holding Company
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Jaime Cuellar, Priority Care
Jennifer McQuay, DPS
Jerry Tan, Tan Holdings President
Jessica Maratita
Joey Dela Cruz, HSEM
Johnny Mesngon
Kagman High School JROTC Color Guard
Kristina Tenorio, Grace Christian Academy NHS President
Lynda Magofna
Maggie Lizama
Malena Hofschneider, 2016 Liberation Day Princess
May Manalang
Michael A. O'Kelley, VFW Post 3457
Michael Concepcion, Priority Care
Military Liaison & Veterans Affairs Office, Office of the Governor
Mount Carmel High School Student Council
Music of the Marianas Association
Nadine Deleon Guerrero, HSEM
Naomi S. Ada, HSEM
Norma Ogo
Northern Mariana Islands Asset Acquisition Inc.
Northern Marianas Humanities Council
Officer Patrick Arriola, DPS
Oscar Torres, NMI Military and Veterans Affairs Office
Pacific Trading Company
Pastor Ray Kinsella, Grace Christian Church
Priority Care
Querlaine Blas, HSEM
Ranger Brooke Nevitt, National Park Service
Rota Commonwealth Ports Authority
Rota Legislative Delegation
Rota Mayor's Office
Rota Public Information Office
Stanley Santos, DFEMS
Star Marianas
Tania Mendiola, NMI Veterans Affairs - Tinian
Tinian Jr./Sr. High School National Honor Society
Tinian Jr./Sr. High School National Junior Honor Society
Tinian Jr./Sr. High School Stallion Battalion
Tinian Mayor's Office
Traders Insurance
Transportation Security Administration - Rota
Women's Affairs Office - Rota

Presenting: Tan Holdings, Tan Siu Lin Foundation
Field: National Park Service
Heritage: IT&E Life In Motion, Customers First Triple J, Power 99 FM Saipan, CNMI
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Patron: Bank of Hawaii, Pacific Islands Club, DQ International Distributors, First Hawaiian Bank, Express, Island Apparel, J.C. Tenorio Enterprises Incorporated, Mail Pac Inc., Modern Office Supply, Shirley's Coffee Shop

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Puerto Rico: The urgency of now

A Rhode Island congressman took to the U.S. House floor Wednesday to implore President Donald Trump and Congress to speed up aid to Puerto Rico following last week's disastrous hurricane.

"Why is this taking so long?" asked Rep. David Cicilline, a Democrat representing the state's 1st Congressional District. "Bring a bill to the floor. Let's address this humanitarian crisis."

We share Cicilline's frantic concern for Puerto Ricans devastated by Hurricane Maria. The Category 4 storm whipped sustained winds of 155 mph across the island beginning Sept. 20, toppling cell towers and shredding power lines. Communication in the days after the storm has been challenging.

The island, located 1,150 miles off the southeastern coast of Florida, remains largely under blackout. It could be weeks before electricity is restored. Food and water are in short supply. Washed out bridges and roads have worsened isolation. And flood damage to airports has complicated efforts to deliver supplies.

So, again, we share Cicilline's urgency.

We also offer some context. Puerto Rico's governor, Ricardo Rossello, praised President Trump's responsiveness, saying Trump has been in contact with him on a daily basis. Rossello has said he was "very grateful" for the help of the federal government and blamed logistics, not politics, for delays in getting help immediately after the storm.

Within days of the storm's landfall, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Department of Defense, National Guard, U.S. Marines and the Coast Guard were on the ground or on their way to the island, federal officials have said. Thousands of U.S. Army Reservists also were deployed and flights and vessels of supplies began arriving.

Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands will qualify for the same programs offered by the federal government toward hurricane relief efforts for residents of Texas and Florida.

So was the response to citizens of Puerto Rico quick enough?

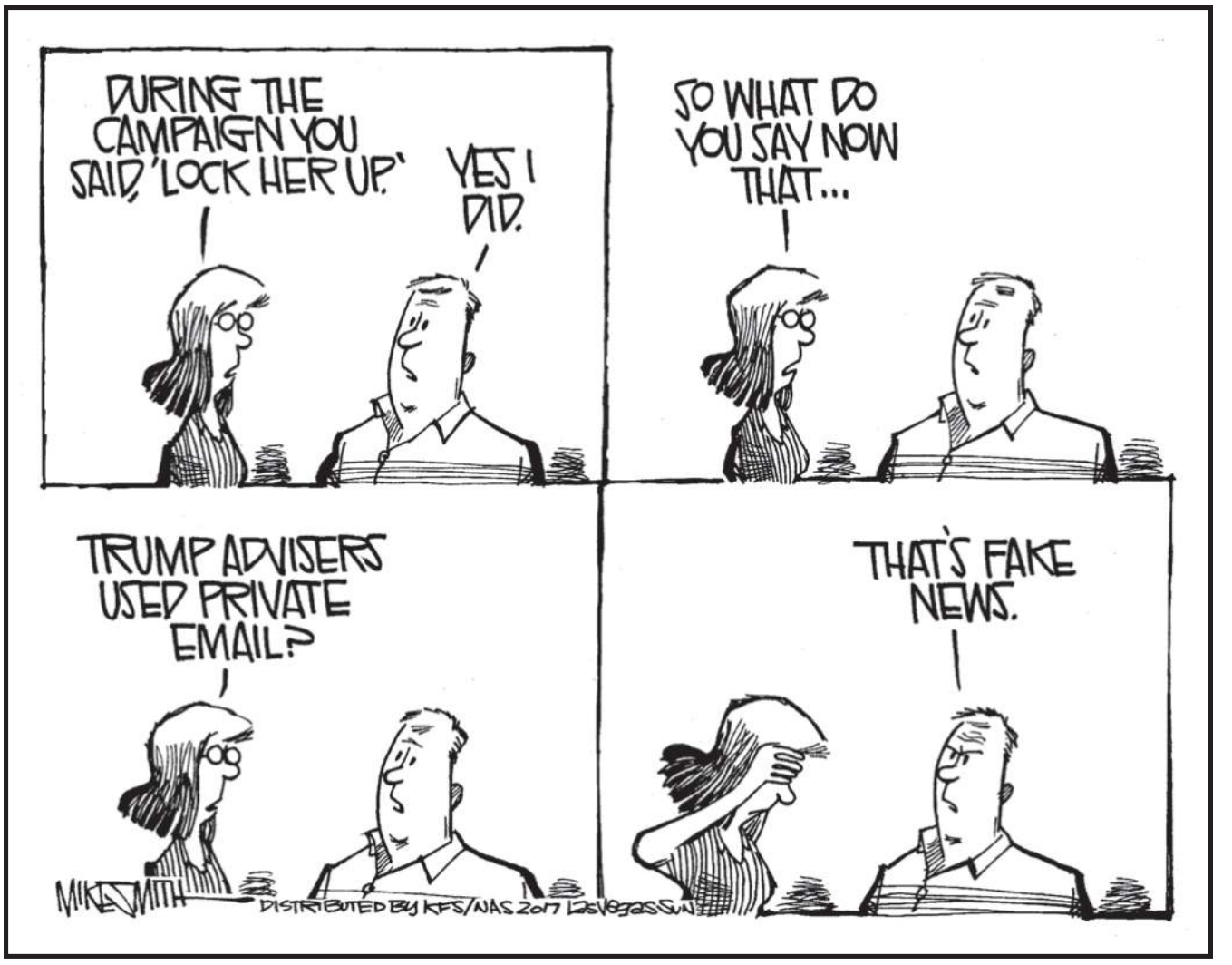
It's never quick enough. Not with a storm of that magnitude on an island 1,150 miles away. It's not possible. Residents of Texas and Florida also waited for help after Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Some rural Floridians spent more than a week without electricity or running water, with water and gasoline supplies strained and with homes flooded.

Trump on Wednesday acknowledged his administration is considering lifting the Jones Act to speed up aid to the island. Congress passed the act after World War I to protect U.S. interests, both militarily and economically. The act mandates that products shipped between American ports be carried by vessels built in the United States and staffed by U.S. citizens.

If temporarily lifting the act would speed up supplies to Puerto Rico, the Trump administration should not waste any more time. Do it.

Also complicating clean-up on the island is its precarious economy, damaged by overspending and teetering near bankruptcy—and some say due in part to the Jones Act, which makes it more expensive for Puerto Rico to receive U.S. products.

See PUETO RICO on Next Page


DURING THE CAMPAIGN YOU SAID 'LOCK HER UP.'
YES I DID.
SO WHAT DO YOU SAY NOW THAT...
TRUMP ADVISERS USED PRIVATE EMAIL?
THAT'S FAKE NEWS.
MIKE SMITH
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How to get girls into tech

By SAPNA CHERYAN, ALLISON MASTER, and ANDREW N. MELTZOFF
LOS ANGELES TIMES

It is often said that women are absent from the sciences. But this is not true. Not anymore. Although a gender gap remains in the sciences overall, the gap is closing. Women are now more likely than men to earn undergraduate degrees in biology, and they are almost as likely as men to earn undergraduate degrees in chemistry and math.

There are, however, several scientific disciplines that women are still much less likely than men to choose to study: computer science, engineering and physics.

Our new research suggests that there is at least one important reason for this—and it is not because differences between men and women in computer science are set in stone, as a certain former Google engineer's controversial memo would have us believe.

Rather, we found that, from a young age, American children form the belief that boys are better than girls in these technological subjects. This specific stereotype shows up even earlier than gendered ideas about math and science more broadly.

We asked a group of 96 first-grade children whether boys or girls were better at robotics, programming, math and science. Across both genders, a majority of the children, all of whom were 6 years old, reported that they believed boys were better than girls at robotics and programming. The children did not report this same bias when asked which gender was better at math and science.

We also found that the stronger the girls' gender stereotypes about robotics and programming, the less they believed that they themselves were skilled at these activities.

To find out whether we could get girls to express interest in computer science and engineering despite this stereotype, we conducted a more direct experiment.

We gave 32 of the 6-year-old girls and boys a robot pet to program for 20 minutes using a mobile phone app. The remaining 64 girls and boys either played a storytelling game or did no activity at all.

Afterward, we asked all the children how interested they were in robotics and programming, and also how good they were at these activities. Among the 64 children who did not get to program a robot, there was an observable gender gap: Boys reported greater interest in the activity, and confidence in their abilities, than the girls did.

But the girls who had played with the robot expressed more interest in robotics and programming and more confidence in their abilities. In fact, the gender gap in both interest and confidence completely disappeared among the children who had played with the robot.

The implications are clear: Gender gaps are malleable, not intrinsic. Experience and socialization matter.

The gender bias we found in first-graders is reflected in the enrollment statistics for classes in these subjects at American public high schools. Most students at public high schools in the U.S. will graduate without having taken a single computer science or engineering class. When such classes are offered, boys are more likely than girls to enroll.

When students haven't had early experience with specific disciplines, they are likely to rely on stereotypes to decide whether to take classes in that subject. In previous research, we found that most high school students—girls and boys—associate computer science and engineering with geeky men. (Think TV's "The Big Bang Theory.") Because of this association, girls in American public high schools are less likely than boys to enroll in necessary "pipeline courses," and are therefore also less likely to consider these professional fields. Quite simply, young girls and female students receive the message that they don't belong.

Women's representation in computer science hasn't always been as low as it is now. In 1984, women earned almost 40 percent of undergraduate degrees in computer science. What happened? The personal computer revolution was marketed explicitly to boys, and computer science was linked in the popular imagination with males.

This trend can be reversed. Positive early experiences in scientific disciplines can counteract the negative effects of these gender stereotypes. In particular, parents can play an instrumental role in inspiring girls to consider a future in computer science and engineering.

Although they are hard to find in toy-store aisles, gender-neutral mechanical toys are a good place to start. One of us recently gave an electronics kit to a friend's 7-year-old daughter as a birthday gift. The kit, which allows kids to make doorbells, radios and alarms using colorful circuits that snap together, became one of the girl's favorite toys. She liked it so much, in fact, that she asked her parents if she could enroll in a robotics camp.

Sapna Cheryan is an associate professor of psychology at the University of Washington. Allison Master is a research scientist at the Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences at the University of Washington. Andrew N. Meltzoff is a professor of psychology and a co-director of the Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences at the University of Washington. They wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Walk this way

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

A recent survey reported that British adults spend more time perched atop the loo than they spend exercising. This novel means of comparison, promulgated by an outfit called UKactive, was a great P.R. hook. It caught the attention of many newspapers earlier this week.

It is yet one more page in a long-running theme. It's not just a British thing. It's global. Modern life, with its urban and sedentary lifestyles, is making exercise difficult, or unpopular, or maybe even both.

Me, I turn into a bit of a slug in urban environments. The notion of running around in a concrete labyrinth has never appealed to me. That's not to say that all rural settings are kind to outdoor exertion, either. Some are certainly better than others. There are, fortunately, a lot of good ones.

Saipan always stuck me as agreeable for activity, as long as a boonie dog doesn't want to make a snack of your Achilles tendon.

Although we always hear that people don't get enough exercise, some people manage to get too much of it. Crazy world, eh?

But it's true. Several of my friends and relatives have been advised by their doctors to cut back on the jogging thing. The concern is that once you hit middle age the accumulative wear and tear on the joints can start to catch up with you. The grand cost vs. benefit equation threatens to pivot in the wrong direction. The pivot point is invisible. The results aren't.

With this in mind, the docs preemptively suggested that their patients get exercise that doesn't impose so much stress on the joints and bones.

Objectively, this is reasonable. But reality isn't always such a clean play. Subjectively, exercise modes aren't a seamless proposition to swap. I'd say that about one-third of the people I know who have been faced with this gig eventually resigned themselves to sitting on the couch and succumbing to sedentary decline.

Exercise that doesn't appeal to you is, well, unappealing. If it becomes a grim chore, it's easy to put off, and once it's put off for long enough, it's no longer a habit. Don't ask me how I know this. I mean, I would like to tell you, but I just wound my wristwatch and I'm really out of breath.

Meanwhile, I don't know one guy over 50 who isn't facing some new pain from an old injury received from college athletics or military service. Our bones are turning into Carbon-14 as we sink into the tar pits of time. During this transition, biology apparently squares the books by marking some of the old liabilities into current values.

So is it time to give up, open a box of glazed doughnuts, and settle into watching Twilight Zone reruns for the next 30 years?

Well, yes. Of course it is.

However, not everybody got the memo on this count. I've noted that of the folks I know in their 80s, and even beyond, the ones who are in good shape, are habitual walkers.

Walking, as it turns out, is good exercise, especially if you hold a decent pace. This is one realm where the cost vs. benefit balance seems to get better as the years go by.

In fact, walking can be a very dignified form of exercise. Sure, it's great to be a fast-moving young hotshot, but the time comes when life can ripen to a more elegant, dare I say stately, pace.

Just as athletes employ a psychological technique of envisioning their victory, I'm envisioning how I will join the walking world.

First, I will put on a Harris tweed jacket. Then I'll clamp a briar pipe in my teeth, take hold of a brass-knobbed walking stick, and prepare to venture afield.

"Jeeves," I'll say, "Ensure that the hounds are caged. I shall be commencing my rounds presently."

"Quite so, sir. Shall you be requiring victuals upon your return?"

"I do not anticipate being in need of such an arrangement, Jeeves."

"Indeed, sir. May one therefore presume that you shall be going to the usual place?"

"One may."

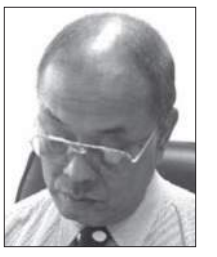
"Winchell's, sir?"

"Yes, Jeeves. Winchell's."

Staying constitutional

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



A certain report says that for every dollar the CNMI collects it owes two dollars. It boggles the mind then how could there be surplus funds. Have we factually retired old debts and current deficit mandated under the Constitution? When was this done and how much did we pay? What's the balance of payment?

If you do due diligence, you'd find out that the cumulative deficit may be well over a billion dollars. Therefore, the surplus must be a new vocabulary among the "comprehension-challenged" cabal on the hill. It breeds uncertainty and feeds intuition of financial trouble ahead.

Meanwhile, Sen. Paul Manglona turned a recent Senate session into comedy central. He quizzed his colleagues serious budgetary queries. As the confused bunch groped for answers, he reminded them to "stay constitutional" by giving PSS its $11 million budget per the Constitution.

One asked: What's constitutional? It's when you use dead brain cells that aren't helping your already confused, fragmented and adolescent view! Ill-prepared, most were scurrying for cover. At least they tried looking intelligent but even that failed too. People, it begins with reading your materials!

Health: Healthcare delivery has gone south not because of management incompetency but politicians have failed funding the department sufficiently. They expect overstretched doctors and nurses to perform miracles. No! It begins with sufficiency of funds. CHC has basically turned into a medical referral agency because of your failure!

Celebration: Culture is a way of life of a group of people, e.g., language, religion, music, arts and dances, traditional healing, and other local customs. It shifts as people intermix and engage in useful adaptations.

Our journey was founded and anchored in oral history—orature—where culture is perpetuated via time-honored and memorable stories from our elders since ancestral days. This oral language is also found throughout Pacific Island countries.

History is replete with decisions by every colonial power to annihilate both the language and culture of the indigenous people. In quiet resilience, though, our elders held on to what's rightly indigenous.

Thus, the political agenda to kill both our lingo and culture failed! But it also didn't leave room for the writing of our journey through time. Thus the orature that was and still is a part of the indigenous culture.

Pale Luis de San Vitores established the first educational system in Guahan in 1668. But most materials then pertain to Catholicism; it must have been the foundation in the formulation of simple teaching materials in both oral and written Chamorro.

The collective aspiration to revive local culture rides on the single most powerful vehicle known as the indigenous language. Unless you're conversant in either Chamorro or Carolinian (oral and written), you're flouting the essence of indigenous prism. Enough of this so-called well intended idea that results in historical misrepresentation.

PSS has done superbly well teaching both oral and written Chamorro and Carolinian throughout our schools. It's a way to decolonizing colonial lingo by strengthening our indigenous tongue among our children.

This has started Pacific-wide in recent past, pushed and encouraged by island professors who understand the essence of culture via the use of indigenous lingo throughout the school system. It's the sole most powerful vehicle we have in perpetuating our cultural traditions.

It is their findings that island kids who could write a complete sentence in their native tongue would never forget their roots. An outstanding collective decision!

Salute: I'd tip my hat off to folks who excel managing large institutions dealing with the future of our children. One such person deserving such accolade is Carmen Fernandez, president of the Northern Marianas College.

Her focus is on the welfare of students going to class daily. And she's assembled a high caliber and motivated staff to help her get the job done. Yes, as she carries the torch of leadership in secondary education, she'd pause and ponder how sometime it gets very lonely at the top.

Don't be discouraged for it is also said that leaders never fly with the flock. Like eagles, they fly alone! We're here with you and thank you for your sense of dedication and commitment to spreading the wealth of formal education among our young people, in preparation to meet the challenges of the future.

Sewer: Sewer backflow has hit IPI's hotel construction in recent days, where employees had to deal with the filth. For all we know the NMI could have forced temporary delay of construction until the old sewer system is upgraded. But the genius on the hill had to do his fire and rain dance, then returned and asked, as though dumbfounded, what happens to the needs of the community for water, power and sewer? Now, Garapan stinks!

Eh, braddah, the sucken thing backflows so you should get your Senate crew and honey wagon to clean it up whenever it dirties up the floor of your favorite company. Eh, it happens when you fail due diligence, forcing the issue with ignorance and arrogance. Seesuzzzz!

Currency: Read an account of funding for the Settlement Fund which currency is uncertainty. Bad tidings! But then I heard declarations of a surplus somewhere. It makes it imperative that we find out the fiscal posture of the NMI before we drown in the filthy swamp of bankruptcy. We're now atop a boat yelling at the iceberg to move! Some advancing to the rear!

Bond: When a government floats a bond it boils down to a loan. It's a quick way to retire certain obligations. It is equally the fastest road to driving the government into bankruptcy. Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are perfect examples of governments that owe billions of dollars and can't afford to pay due accounts on time.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Clarification

According to a *Saipan Tribune* article, plaintiff's attorney Matthew Gregory alleged that "unreasonable delay in shipping the containers was not due to bad weather but rather plaintiffs. It was to ensure full barges to maximize Saipan Shipping's profits to the detriment of plaintiffs." This matter has been settled but Saipan Shipping wishes to clarify that as a business it has an interest in profits but it is also very aware of the responsibilities it assumes when it commits to perform a service. This service matters and that the company performs this service well is important as well. We have served the island of Rota to the best of our ability over many decades, providing service at a loss in many cases, all to ensure that this community is served and we will continue to do so.

Juan S. "Santiago" Tenorio
President, Saipan Shipping Company

PUERTO RICO

From Page 14

Last year, Congress approved the Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Act for Puerto Rico, a bill designed to help lift the island out of its vast debts with stricter federal oversight of spending and revenue.

But now more aid is needed. Reinstalling a power grid, along with housing rehabilitation and basic supplies, on a poor, isolated island that relied on tourism and agriculture, will require direct and consistent attention.

Help is there. More is on the way. More can be done.

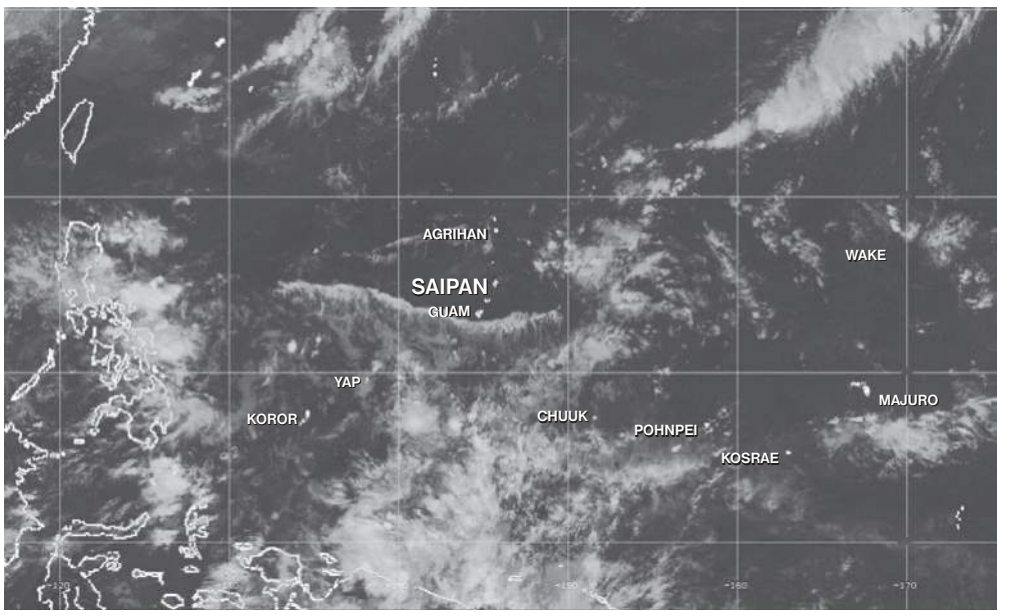
(c)2017 *Chicago Tribune*

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. A slight chance of afternoon thunderstorms near Guam.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:13 AM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Surface trough near the Marianas the past day or two is now sagging southward a bit. This has allowed easterly winds to return, although very light ones. With sunny skies added in, island convection is a possibility. The HiResW non-hydrostatic mesoscale model shows convective initiation around noon. Inherited package had this fairly well covered, so just refreshed winds and waves. The changes ended up being so minimal that they can hardly even be seen. Island convection looks a little less likely tomorrow, left it in the forecast though until we see how today works out.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 76°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	63° / 54°
Beijing	Sunny	81° / 61°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	88° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 74°
London	Showers	64° / 48°
Los Angeles	Sunny	88° / 65°
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 79°
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	59° / 46°
Miami	Thunderstorms	83° / 77°
New York	Sunny	72° / 57°
Osaka	Sunny	77° / 59°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	75° / 55°
Busan	Sunny	77° / 63°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	75° / 54°
Salem	Mostly Sunny	90° / 67°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	64° / 56°
Seoul	Showers	77° / 57°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	73° / 61°
Washington, DC	Sunny	74° / 57°

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TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
12:39 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.47
8:20 AM	LOW TIDE	0.27
3:47 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.59
9:22 PM	LOW TIDE	1.13

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:06 AM	6:07 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:07 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:06 PM
Monday	6:06 AM	6:05 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:05 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	12:09 am	1:20 pm
Saturday	-	12:58 am	2:07 pm
Sunday	-	1:49 am	2:53 pm
Monday	-	2:40 am	3:38 pm
Tuesday	-	3:33 am	4:22 pm

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	2, 3, 4
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
ZE582	3:40am	7:00am	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	4:45am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:00am	10:25am	1
JD396	4:50pm	8:15pm	4

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:00am	1, 2, 4, 6via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	3, 5, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:40pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1, 2, 3
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
ZE581	9:00pm	2:40am+1	Daily
LJ651	10:00pm	3:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:10am	3:30pm	4
JD395	10:05pm	5:30am+1	7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:20am	3:00pm	Daily

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:10pm	1:00am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA116/6395	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

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SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

It takes a village...

Promoting and supporting the physical, emotional, social, and intellectual development of a child.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE SUPPLEMENT

SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

Opening the line to a healthy communication

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Healthy communication is the lifeline that binds the relationship between parent and child. From infancy to adulthood, having confidence that both you and your child have an open line of communication in times of laughter and tears can only make love stronger. It is hard but it can be done.

BE AVAILABLE

» Guidelines for parent-child communication

Being available is not only about providing for the basics. Be present in your child's life; a parent can't be lazy about it. This will nurture your friendship with them. Have them know that you have time for them and you have fun doing it because when your kids can always rely on you, it creates that attachment that they will not find anywhere else.

MCT
Los Angeles Harbor City College student Brenda Soriano, left, converses with her parents Edilbertha Martinez and Victor Soriano during dinner in their apartment in Gardena on September 7, 2017.

HAVE AN OPEN EAR

Parents often have a tendency to be in the "I'm the parent mode" which often results in having a know-it-all mentality. This is the quickest way to shut your child out. As parents, we only want the best for our children and wanting the best for them entails listening to them because it encourages children to open up. This helps your child speak to you without guile.

DO NOT WALK WITH YOUR EMOTIONS

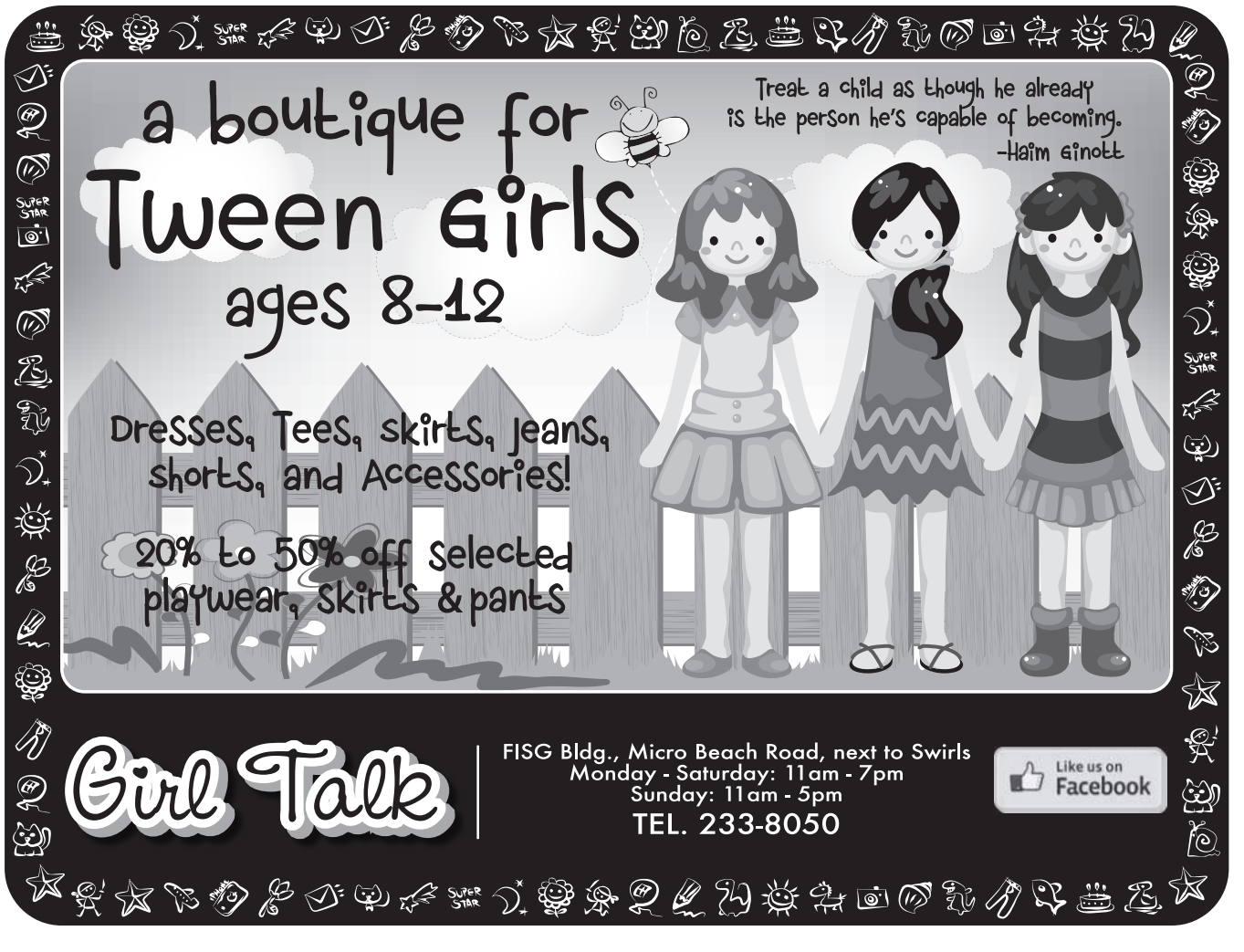
Do not let your emotions dictate how you should treat your child today. Feeling stressed at work? Are you tired? Did you forget an important meeting? Whatever circumstance you are going through, do not unload on your child because they don't deserve it. Our emotions can be very tricky. It makes us feel entitled and selfish. Whatever our circumstances may be, keep your child out of it and be the better person always.

ENCOURAGE

Help your children find a hobby, a sport, a passion. Create a routine to help your child succeed. Your child may not know it but it can be something that she/he will like. When you encourage, you lift the spirit and confidence of your child. If, through the process, they find that a particular hobby, sport, or passion is not for them, that's alright. You helped them find out. This gives you another chance to go and reinforce them again with other things.

BE INTENTIONAL

A biblical quote says: "Train a child in the way he/she should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it." Be intentional in how you raise your child. Think of the character that you want your child to have. Guide them with thoughtful choices and get them involved. This will nurture healthy communication.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Raising resilient and confident kids

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Young children who develop strong early relationships with parents, family, friends, and teachers learn how to pay attention, cooperate, and get along with others.

Parenting style and family dynamics and interaction are the basic foundations in honing a child's emotional development.

Recent research shows that young children who develop strong early relationships with parents, family, friends, and teachers learn how to pay attention, cooperate, and get along with others. They are confident in their ability to explore and learn from the world around them.

As your child's first role model, you can send a positive message to them that will make them feel they belong and are supported.

GIVE LOVE

Start by saying and showing that they are loved. Love your child and do not be afraid to show affection. Engage them in sweet talk, touch, hug, and communicate with them throughout the day.

See RAISING on NEXT Page

How to deal with picky eaters

By BARBARA QUINN
THE MONTEREY COUNTY HERALD

I try not to take it personally when my grandkids don't like what I cook. Vegetables? Let's just say—thanks to concerted efforts on the part of mom, grandma's and their excellent preschool staff—these little ones are expanding their nutritional horizons.

Games sometimes work.

Frances: "I don't like that, Grammy."

Me: "Oh good, because this food is only for grownups. When you get older, you'll really like it."

Frances: "I want to try it!"

Me: "I'm not sure ... but ... OK."

Frances: "I like it!"

What makes some kids pickier eaters than others? One reason may be differences in personality, according to a new study in the *Journal of Child Psychology*. Researchers observed how 136 infants responded to new foods and new toys during their first 18 months of life. They discovered that infants who were reserved about new toys also tended to be less accepting of new foods. That suggests a link between personality and attitudes about food, say the authors.

Don't give up just because your child is less than enthusiastic about downing his zucchini. Other research consistently shows that infants and children can learn to accept new foods if their caregivers continue to offer them. It may take as many as eight to 10 offerings before a child learns to accept certain foods.

And it's never too late to start. Flavors from what a mom eats during pregnancy and lactation get passed on to her baby, says Julie Mennella, a biopsychologist at the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia. So if a mother eats vegetables during these early years, her infant is familiar with the taste of those foods when they are introduced.

A recent clinical trial conducted by Mennella and her research team found that breastfed infants whose moms drank carrot and other types of vegetable juices were more likely to accept the flavors of these vegetables when they began to eat solid foods. Another bonus: Moms also developed a taste for vegetables during the time they drank the vegetable juices.

Regardless of what tricks we pull to get our kiddos to eat healthier, we should not force food on a child.

"All young children are more-or-less picky about food," says child feeding expert Ellyn Satter. "They warm up slowly to unfamiliar foods and may have to see, watch you eat, touch or taste a food several times before they learn to like it."

Demonstrate a positive attitude about food and your child is apt to catch that outlook. Even if you have to sometimes use reverse psychology.

LEILA NAVIDI/MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE/TNS

Customize the flavor of granola bars to suit your tastes - or the tastes of picky eaters.

RAISING

From Page 18

ENCOURAGE

Support your child when he/she wants to try new things. Help them focus on their strengths rather than their weaknesses. Assure them that you are happy with all their accomplishments—both big and small.

LET YOUR KIDS SOCIALIZE

Exposure is a good teacher for children who are curious about their surroundings. This is a good time to surround them with good people and make them stay in an environment where they can learn and prosper. Help you children explore the world and the people in it.

BE TRANSPARENT

It is okay to show emotions to your children. Share with them when you are happy or sad. This will help them develop empathy, sincerity, sensitivity, and kindness. In the same manner, acknowledge your child's feelings so they don't develop a feeling of repression.

ESTABLISH ROUTINES

Help make your child feel secure and confident about their schedule and surroundings. Be intentional in providing a good, positive emotional surrounding to your child that is conducive to development. If your child trusts and feels secured in his/her surroundings at an early age, then the child will be able to move on to other things like focus and learning. ***(Bea Cabrera)***

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Kids and tech

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Children seem more engaged with technology and gadgets and the presence of doodads appear inevitable.

Have you ever had that experience of having your 5-year-old teach you how to download an app on your smartphone?

Or instead of a bicycle, your 10-year-old actually asked you for an iPad?

Or when flummoxed as to where the family can eat, you find your 13-year-old Googling for suggestions?

That's the 21st Century reality these days.

Children seem more engaged with technology and gadgets and the presence of doodads appear inevitable. They use it both for recreation and for school.

There are many advantages and disadvantages but, whatever the case may be, try not to focus on the negatives. No matter how modern and advanced the world is today, that doesn't mean you can't be on top of it.

Managing the use of media and technology is one of the challenges rearing up a child in the 21st Century. Here are some tips for you to get along with tech.

WATCH TV WITH YOUR CHILDREN.

Make TV time a learning time, especially for young children. It is important to guide our children with what they watch on TV so that if ever they have questions and are curious about something, you will be able to educate, translate, interpret and get them to understand. Watching TV together also gives a parent and child a shared experience.

CHOOSE THE PROGRAMS.

Ask family members, colleagues at work, friends who have children and ask for recommendations on what healthy and educational programs to watch. Screen these programs first, seek out the reviews, and see how if it is helpful in the development of your child.

HELP YOUR KIDS KNOW WHAT IS RIGHT FROM WRONG.

Integrating values in your child before being exposed to media is an important thing and it shouldn't stop, especially when they are exposed to the daily barrage of mass media. Having values and morals will enable them to have an internal compass that will guide them even in your absence.

REGULATE THE TIME WITH GADGETS.

TV and gadgets are convenient baby sitters but setting a certain number of hours for TV and gadget use is very important so that the child will learn parameters. Having rules such a "no phones during mealtime" and "no TV during school nights" are examples. Encouraging your children to get active outside the house like engaging in an activity or sport is ideal.

CREATE ACTIVITIES.

Organize activities that will lessen the attraction of being in front of the TV or gadget. Organize a barbecue party at the beach, create street games with other children, have a picnic at the park, or organize a book club with other kids. This way, they will be able to appreciate the time spent away from gadgets. ***(Bea Cabrera)***

Teaching kids about making healthy choices

With the rampant availability of unhealthy meals, junk food, and sugary drinks that are cheap, convenient, and practically everywhere, teaching children about making healthy food choices is just another challenge for parents.

Nobody says it cannot be done but it will be hard and parents would need to be consistent.

There are two ways to go about it: Focusing on to their eating habits and getting them into sports.

HEATHY EATING

Parents can create and serve healthy and balanced meals at home following the Healthy Eating Plate created by nutrition experts at the Harvard School of Public Health.

■ Make ½ of your plate meal vegetables and fruits. Aim for color and variety.

■ Make ¼ of your plate whole grains—whole wheat, barley, wheat berries, quinoa, oats, brown rice and foods made with them, such as whole wheat pasta

■ Make ¼ of your plate protein. Fish, chicken, beans, and nuts are all healthy, versatile protein sources. They can be mixed into salads, and

pair well with vegetables on a plate. Limit red meat, and avoid processed meats such as bacon and sausage.

■ Skip sugary drinks and maximize on water. Do not buy your children those drinks that promise authentic fruit flavor. More often than not, it contains sugar and zero fruit.

All of these do not have to be expensive. Choose the right food. Real food.

Families on Saipan love dining out. If this is your source of family bonding time, no need to worry making unhealthy choices. Parents can choose to go to restaurants that serve healthy meals.

The CNMI Non-Communicable Disease Bureau of the Division of Public Health has introduced efforts to make healthy choice an easy choice for CNMI restaurant customers. The project is called REACH Biba program, where they encourage restaurants to make their menu healthier. There are currently several restaurants on Saipan that offer healthy plates on their menu and the number is growing.

STAY ACTIVE

Teach you child to love a sport by exposing them to a variety of activities like tennis, swimming, canoeing, football, volleyball and basketball, to name a few. This will help your child pick an activity that he/she likes and suits her physical level.

Watching sports on TV is a good introduction, but it gets even better when you watch the sport live.

Talk to them about what they like and dislike about each sport and look for signs of enthusiasm.

As a parent, you will need patience, time to explore sports, time to practice and teach skills, and time to support your child in his or her choice. ***(Bea Cabrera)***

NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM
Babies learn from the time they are born. One of the ways they learn is through hearing. When a baby is born with hearing loss, many sounds and voices are not heard, and the child's speech and language development can be delayed. CHCC implemented newborn hearing as a standard of care and all babies get their hearing screened shortly after birth.
Ask if your baby passed the test. If you have concerns or your baby needs follow up call 236-8709.
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Printing funded by the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Grant under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration.

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For questions on upcoming events, please contact JKPL at Tel: 235-7323(READ); TPL at Tel: (670) 433-0504/433-0647; RPL at Tel: (670) 532-7328
or E-mail: cnmistatelibrary@gmail.com or like/add us on facebook/instagram: Joeten Kiyu. Visit our website at https:// www.cnmilib.org

Northern Marianas Humanities Council

Navigating the Human Experience

proudly presents

Motheread CNMI **Motheread Fatheread**

The CNMI Motheread/Fatheread Family Literacy Program is administered by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, in partnership with the CNMI Public School System and the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

"Promoting Family Literacy"

Motheread®, Inc. is a nationally acclaimed private, non-profit organization that combines the teaching of literacy skills with child development and family empowerment issues. Parents and children learn to use the power of language to discover more about themselves, their families, and their communities.

Motheread® offers separate classes for both the adults and children. In Motheread/Fatheread adult classes, participants learn to be story readers, writers, and tellers in a group structure that supports their own sense of worth and ability. These classes are appropriate for all adults, regardless of reading ability or prior educational experience. By teaching the "why" of reading rather than just emphasizing the "how," classes encourage parents to be reading role models for their children. For children, story exploring provides a structured environment for reading, critical thinking, and problem solving skills.

October is "CNMI Humanities Month"! Please visit www.northernmarianashumanities.org or contact 235-4785 for the latest news on Northern Marianas Humanities Council.

The goals of the Motheread/Fatheread Program is to help parents to:

1. Recognize that their own stories and stories in books are a good way to communicate with their children.
2. Understand the messages in children's stories.
3. Become familiar with the many ways to use stories as a way to improve children's academic skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing, comprehension, and critical thinking.
4. Discuss important parenting skills and challenges with other adults in a supportive environment.

For questions on upcoming classes, please contact us—Viola Deleon Guerrero or Beth Demapan at Tel:235-7319/989-8542/783-7678 or E-mail: cnmimotheread@gmail.com
or like/add us on facebook/instagram: cnmi motheread fatheread. Visit our website at https:// sites.google.com/site/cnmimothereread/home

Saipan Soccer School works with your children

Every year, Saipan Soccer School offers various activities and programs for CNMI children, introducing them to the sport of soccer and, at the same time, instilling in them the values of teamwork, discipline, and having an active and healthy lifestyle.

Just a few months ago, Saipan Soccer School had over 150 children in the U6, U8, and U10 age groups joining its annual summer camp.

For more than a month, these children learned the basics of soccer and basketball, found new friends, and worked with their teammates.

Instead of spending their summer vacation at home watching TV or playing with their gadgets, they were up and running at the TSL Sports Complex, kicking and dribbling balls.

You can see from the participants' faces how they enjoyed the activities, as they followed instructions from the coaches, watched and eagerly waited for their turns to play, and exchanged high-fives with their teammates when they scored a goal or a basket.

From the sidelines, their parents cheered from them, amazed at how their kids

picked up skills in just a short time.

On several occasions, when their children were done with the activities or during break, the doting parents were quick to give food and water to their children or changed their soaked clothes. While doing these, parents were either giving praise to their children or encouraging them to play better.

At the end of the summer camp, all the participants received certification of completion and gift packages from Saipan Soccer School. Their proud parents then watched as their children were awarded with medals for an outstanding performance during the camp. Both parents and their children promised to be back for next year's camp.

Aside from the summer camp, Saipan Soccer School also hosts futsal tournaments during Christmas holidays and visits schools to donate sports equipment and teach young students the basics of soccer.

Its futsal league caters to players in the U12 and U16 age groups and again provides children a fun and learning activity just in time when other tournaments on island are on a break.

As for its outreach program involving schools, Saipan Soccer School, in partnership with Northern Mariana Islands Football Association, believes that one of the best ways to get its grassroots program rolling is to go to schools.

Each visit by Saipan Soccer School coaches and officials is well received by students and their teachers, with the latter using the donated equipment and basic knowledge they gained from the visitors to conduct after-school activities for the students.

At the national level, Saipan Soccer School partners with NMIFA in providing support to CNMI national youth and adult teams. Through its collaboration with the well-known Chelsea FC Soccer School (Hong Kong), Saipan Soccer School helps bring top caliber coaches to Saipan to assist in training our national teams.

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- To provide a venue for players' practice and games day and night, rain or shine;
- To teach beginners the rudiments of the sport; and
- To train coaches who will develop good players

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

January-May:	PE Support for various schools, in partnership with NMIFA
June:	President's Cup
June-July:	Summer Sports Camp
June-July:	Summer Training Camp in Hong Kong
July:	Summer Youth Futsal Tournament
December:	Christmas Futsal Tournament
December-January:	Christmas Basketball Tournament

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For more information, please call (670) 235-2440 ext. 156 or visit us at www.facebook.com/SaipanSoccerSchool

When adult children move home: It's not a nightmare, if you do it right

By MARTHA ROSS
THE MERCURY NEWS

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Pat Read enjoyed life on her own in her Northern California home after her two kids left for college, graduated, started their careers and set themselves up in their own apartments.

But about a year ago, stuff happened. Her children were hit by soaring rents, and her family faced a situation that is becoming familiar to many parents in the Bay Area and is transforming how people live together in the United States.

First, 30-year-old Lisa got priced out of an apartment she was sharing with roommates in Oakland, then 28-year-old Jeff could no longer afford his jacked-up $1,700-a-month one bedroom.

"I told them they were welcome to move back home but under certain conditions," Read said.

For Read, she knew her children weren't typical of despairing stories about the "boomerang generation." They weren't mooching millennials who have "failure to launch" issues but hard-working young adults faced with a challenging housing market.

Still, she realized it was important to talk about everyone's expectations for living together and to lay out some ground rules, including her need for them to pay rent.

It turns out that Read's demand for clarity is just what was needed, according to therapists and other experts in how families can cope with this phenomenon.

As it happens, Read found that things went much more smoothly than she expected. She hasn't missed the peace and freedom of her empty nest and in fact prizes the opportunity to get to know her kids in a new way.

"It is a joy living with people who love you unconditionally," she said. While she expects her children to move out one day, she's "enjoying the heck out of their company." She loves their energy, humor, warmth and knowledge "about all things technological."

■■■

Read isn't alone in finding the bright side to what is sometimes regarded as a modern social failure: a young person supposedly not meeting an important milestone towards adulthood by establishing an independent household. Many other parents The Mercury News talked to also say the experience has been beneficial for their families.

It is important to talk about everyone's expectations for living together and to lay out some ground rules, including the need for adult children to pay rent.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"We enjoy hearing about their work day, friends, ideas," said Liz Peters, a San Jose mother who's had her four children move back at various points. "We have another partner for movie watching, coffee outings, and walking."

At the same time, these positive parent-adult child experiences don't come without effort, as Read's situation shows. Other parents likewise said they talked to their kids about paying rent or giving the arrangement a deadline. "Part of the success is knowing it is temporary," added Peters.

Of course, these experiences aren't universal. Some parents also discussed how they felt disrespected by their adult children. One father said his daughter, 34, and son, 32, have decent-paying jobs, but he suspects they live at home rent free because they want to spend what they earn on "new cars, travel, other things in life."

He'd like to set deadlines for his children to leave, but he feels stuck because their mother won't change the current arrangement. Recently he was distressed to hear his son voice a true "failure to launch" sentiment, saying: "I don't know what I'm going to do when you and mom die. Who is going to take care of me?"

■■■

It's likely that more parents will face the return of adult children, not just because of housing costs but also the burden of student debt and shifting social patterns, which includes young adults delaying marriage and the starting of families.

About 25 million adults live with their parents, and the numbers continue to rise, according to Pew Research Center analysis of U.S. census data. As of 2016, 15 percent of 25- to 35-year-old Americans were living in their parents' home, the highest share since 1940. Today's young adults also are more likely to be at home for an extended stay of a year or longer, compared with previous generations.

Margie Ryerson, a Bay Area therapist, said one of the biggest mistakes families make is in assuming that everyone can start living together again because they're family.

"That usually breaks down because so much has changed, with everyone living independently of one another," she said. Day-to-day matters—such as how to share common space, meals or household chores—can cause tensions, as was the case with an aggrieved client whose son kept eating leftovers that the parent used to enjoy for himself.

But conflicts usually arise over bigger issues. Ruth Kalb, an area psychologist, said these issues aren't always easy to talk about and include "money, boundaries, mutual respect, shifting roles, expectations and needs."

■■■

For Read, the big issue she wanted to get out of the way with her children was how they would relate to one another. She told them, "We would be housemates, not parent and child."

That meant she wouldn't tell them they couldn't have overnight guests or stay out all night. At the same time, she expected them to respect her feelings enough to call if they weren't coming home so she wouldn't wake at 2 a.m. worrying that something bad had happened.

Christina Newberry, the Canadian author of "The Hands-on Guide to Surviving Adult Children Living at Home," agrees that a successful arrangement with adult kids at home depends on managing expectations. She especially emphasizes the need for clarity on financial issues, saying it's important for parents to not give their children a free ride and rob them of the chance to gain independence.

Each family must decide what constitute a free ride. Dana Tucker, of San Jose, and her husband didn't see themselves as going easy on their 23-year-old son when he moved back home to start a well-paying job at Microsoft.

They charged no rent at first, but that's because they had all agreed to a specific plan: For six months, their son would focus on repaying back student loans they had co-signed. Once those were paid off, he would contribute $500 a month in rent while paying back his other loans.

In his 16 months back under mom and dad's roof, he contributed in other ways and was good company, especially carpooling to work with his father every day, Tucker said. "He mowed the lawn without asking, bought groceries when we ran out of something, did his own laundry, didn't have parties while we were away."

By giving their son a chance to free himself from debt, Tucker believes he was better able to launch himself into the world. Ten years later, he still has his good Microsoft job, is married and owns his home.

■■■

For Pat, who didn't want her last name used, letting her adult children live with her is a return to the traditional multi-generational household, though she recognizes there is a "stigma" for young adults who are not out on their own. She currently lives with her boyfriend, as well as two of her daughters and a young grandchild. Over the years, her 3,100-square-foot home has found space for up to 11 children, grandchildren and significant others.

"As the rents got so high, I encouraged them to move back home to save some money," said Pat, who charges a nominal rent. "Thankfully, they all have very good jobs. I didn't want to see them paying astronomical rent to live nearby. ... I believe a multi-generational household can be very beneficial for all of us."

The benefits come as parents age. Pat said her children helped her provide 24/7 care for her husband, who suffered with Lewy body dementia for three years before he died in January 2016. "We never had any hired help, only hospice," she said. With her children around, she was also able to have her mother live with her before she died last summer at age 101.

In her family, they work hard to respect one another's private spaces and have worked out schedules for laundry. "But I would say that the single most important thing you need to live together like this is a sense of humor," she said. "It really helps a lot."

Child Care and Development Fund Program

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The Child Care Development Fund Program assists low income families in accessing quality child care for children while parents work or participate in education or job training.

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Child's Eligibility

- Resides with the parent who is in an approved activity (working, in job training or attending school)
- Be under the age of 13
- Must be a US Citizen or Qualified alien as defined in PRWORA.

DCCA Child Care & Development Fund

ATTENTION, WORKING MOMS

These are the 100 best companies to work for

By DAVID CARRIG
USA TODAY

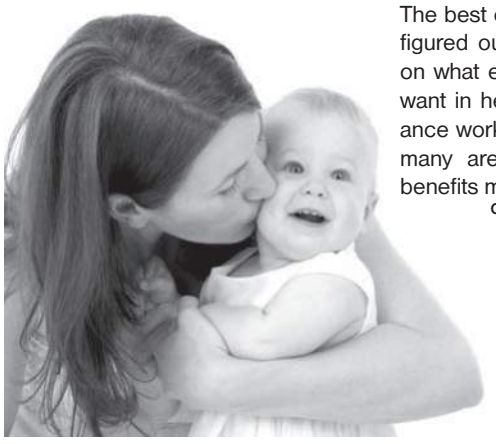
What is it that makes a company one of the best for working mothers?

Schedule flexibility, generous paid parental leave and mentoring programs for women are key, according to Working Mother magazine and its annual list of 100 Best Companies for working moms.

The best companies have figured out and honed in on what employees really want in helping them balance work and family and many are making those benefits more generous, according to the magazine.

The average number of weeks of fully paid maternity leave at the 100 best companies rose to 10 weeks from 9 weeks last year. Among the best of the best, the top 10 companies, the average is 15 weeks.

But there is a wide gap between what the best companies offer compared to what is offered by most U.S. companies. Every one of the 100 companies on the list offer paid maternity leave compared to just 30% of U.S. companies overall, according to the Society for Human Resource Management.



The best companies have figured out and honed in on what employees really want in helping them balance work and family and many are making those benefits more generous.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

According to Working Mother, an average of six weeks of paid adoption leave is offered by 98% of the top 100 companies and four weeks of paid paternity leave is offered by 97%.

More: 'Fortune' ranks Most Powerful Women in Business: From Mary Barra to Reese Witherspoon

The best companies "know the value of keeping their employee moms engaged and supported," Working Mother editor-in-chief Meredith Bodgas said in a statement. They use these programs "to ensure that parents can develop meaningful careers while leading satisfying home lives."

Companies that do this well know success comes from having and maintaining the best talent, Subha Barry, managing director of Working Mother Media said.

"You cannot underestimate the loyalty such policies and programs build," Barry said.

To make the unranked list, companies must complete an application of more than 400 questions on leave policies, workforce representation, benefits, childcare, advancement programs, flexibility programs and more. This is the 32nd year Working Mother has done the survey.

From the list of 100 companies, Working Mother highlights the top 10 companies but does not rank them. Here are this year's top 10 best companies for working mothers (in alphabetical order):

* Bank of America
* Deloitte
* Ernst & Young
* IBM
* Johnson & Johnson
* McKinsey & Co.
* Prudential Financial
* PwC
* Unilever
* Zoetis

See the entire list: 2017 Working Mother 100 best companies

Ten companies made the annual list of 100 for the first time: Adobe Systems, Boston Scientific, Broad Institute, JLL, Kimberly-Clark, L.E.K. Consulting, Lenovo, Oppenheimer Funds, SapientRazorfish and Synchrony Financial.

Workforce representation at the 100 best companies shows women make up 46% of the total employees but only 35% of senior managers and just 28% are corporate executives, Working Mother's statistics showed.

Deloitte CEO Cathy Engelbert is optimistic about the future of gender representation and believes we are poised to make a lot of progress.

The consulting firm, which has been on the list for 24 years, offers 16 weeks for both maternity and paternity leave with the potential for additional time for new mothers of up to 24 weeks.

"We have been on a journey to reimagine the workforce through innovation and talent," Engelbert said. Offering these benefits allows the company to look for and retain great talent, she said.

Tired of being asked to babysit grandchildren and granddogs?

By GAIL ROSENBLUM
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

The problem: We have become a babysitting service for our kids—and their pets. It seems like they visit only when it's time for us to babysit.

Sure, you could look at this as being manipulated to the moon and back. Or you could consider it the greatest compliment possible. On the one hand, your children seem to have forgotten, or maybe never considered, that you also have a life. And that one-sided giving feels lousy, particularly when the manipulation is by your own progeny.

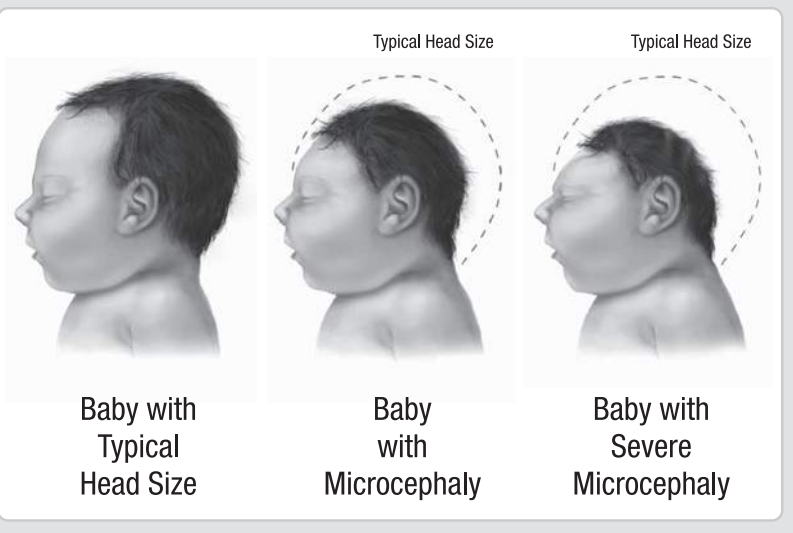
On the other hand, try to remember what your lives were like when you were sucked into that emotionally, physically and financially draining sleep-deprivation chamber known as parenting. An occasional adults-only escape isn't just fun; it could save a marriage. That your kids ask you to step up regularly shows that they know they can count on you to keep their precious cargo, on two legs and four, safe and entertained.

I imagine that you have friends who are grieving estrangement from their children and, thus, grandchildren. I'll bet they would babysit in a heartbeat. The key is to find balance. Yes, you want to help. But you don't want to grow weary and resentful. Think about how much you really can do. One night a week? Two afternoons? Once a month? Don't apologize. Explain that, to be the best and most attentive grandparents for your cherubs, that's really all you can do.

On birthdays and holidays, you might also give your kids coupons for an extra night, or even weekend, of grandparent time with the kids and pets. That reminds them that your gift of time is just that—a gift.

ZIKA is linked to Microcephaly

Microcephaly is a serious birth defect that affects baby's brain.



Zika Virus can cause microcephaly in unborn babies, causing abnormally small heads and brains

While you are pregnant, delay or avoid travel to areas with **Zika.** If you must travel, do everything you can to avoid mosquito bites.

You can avoid mosquito bites by using bug spray, wearing clothing to cover your arms and legs and sleeping under bed netting.

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Facing fears is best therapy for 4-year-old

By JOHN ROSEMOND
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Have 4-yr-old face fears

DREAMSTIME/TNS

Q: Over the past year, our 4-year-old has developed several fears that have become quite disruptive. It started with a fear of dogs, which is inconvenient given that there are lots of dogs in our neighborhood. Since then she's become afraid of noises at night, wind (she thinks a hurricane is coming), and dying in her sleep. Needless to say, she is anxious a lot of the time. We've talked to her, reassured her, and so on, but nothing has worked. She's becoming a wreck, and so am I. Should I take her to a counselor? If not, then do you have any advice?

A: With very selective exceptions, I generally recommend against having children—especially young children – talk to mental health professionals. First, there is no research-based body of evidence that would verify the general efficacy of any form of child therapy. Second, over the course of my now 40-plus year career, I've collected a significant body of anecdotal evidence to the effect that exposing a child to psychological counseling often (perhaps more often than not) makes matters worse. Having said that, I must add that my point of view on child therapy is not widely approved of by my colleagues, so if you'd feel better having your daughter see a therapist, then do so.

The problem is that almost invariably, therapists talk to children about fears, anxieties, and persistent thoughts as if they represent something meaningful—as in, deep-seated issues that the child is incapable of expressing otherwise. Example: A child's inability to tell her parents that they haven't been giving her enough attention since a baby brother arrived in the family is expressed in frequent tantrums (an actual account recently related to me by the parent of a 5-year-old). This is what therapists were educated and trained to do; so was I.

The fact is that a child's thinking and emotions need as much if not more discipline than her behavior. The more adults talk to a child about irrational fears and persistent thoughts, the worse they are likely to become. One such conversation is enough, and it needs to contain the message that the fears/thoughts in question do not represent reality and are not going to alter, much less dictate, parental decisions or parental behavior. In situations of this sort, I encourage parents not to "explore" the child's fears/thoughts, not to ask lots of questions about them, but to simply tell the child, authoritatively but lovingly, that fears are common during childhood, they do not represent things that are likely, and that life will go on as usual in the family.

Your daughter doesn't want to take a walk through the neighborhood because she's afraid of dogs? You're taking her on a walk anyway. She doesn't want to go outside because of wind? She's going anyway. She is afraid to go to bed because she thinks she's going to die in her sleep (one of my daughter's fears, around age 10)? She's going to bed anyway. And by the way, sometimes crying is a necessary purgative and needs to be allowed (if contained in the child's room) until it's run its course.

A child who has become caught up in and carried away by the sort of randomness that often characterizes a child's thinking and feelings needs parents who will act quickly to keep her grounded, who will continue to steer a straight course in the face of the emotional tempest.

Visit family psychologist John Rosemond's website at www.johnrosemond.com; readers may send him email at questions@rosemond.com; due to the volume of mail, not every question will be answered.

Why won't you grow up?

By ARMIN BROTT
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Dear Mr. Dad: Back when I was in high school, all I wanted was to be independent. I wanted more responsibility, a job so I could have my own spending money, and I was obsessed with getting a girlfriend. Despite my parents' warnings, I experimented with drinking alcohol and, well, a few other things. I'm asking because my two teens have zero interest in any of that—and as far as I can tell, neither do their friends. Is there something different about teens today or am I imagining things?

A: You're not imagining. Teens and young adults these days are very different than we were their age when we were doing many of the things you described. San Diego State University researcher Jean Twenge and her Bryn Mawr College colleague Heejung Park just published a study that confirmed what a lot of us have long suspected: Compared to their parents and grandparents, today's young people are much less mature, much less interested in taking on the trappings of adulthood (more on that in a minute), and are content to be dependent on their parents for far longer.

The quest for independence starts very early. Remember back when your kids were two and wanted to do everything themselves? And when they were three or four and wanted to do everything we did, whether it was talking on the phone, working on the computer, or washing dishes? That process—of seeking independence and engaging in adult-like activities—continues through adolescence and, theoretically at least, ends at actual adulthood.

San Diego State University researcher Jean Twenge and her Bryn Mawr College colleague Heejung Park just published a study that confirmed what a lot of us have long suspected: Compared to their parents and grandparents, today's young people are much less mature, much less interested in taking on the trappings of adulthood (more on that in a minute), and are content to be dependent on their parents for far longer.

DREAMSTIME/TNS

But as Twenge and Park found, today's teens are in no hurry to grow up. Their study looked at teenage behavior going back as far as the mid-to-late 1970s and up through 2016. Let me give you a few examples.

■ From 1976-1979, 76 percent of 12th graders were earning at least some money. From 1990-1994, that number had dropped a little, to 72 percent. But from 2010-2016, only 55 percent of teens were earning any money on their own.

■ In the 1970s, 88 percent of 12th graders had a driver's license, 84 percent in the early 90s, and just 73 percent today.

■ In the early 1990s, 72 percent of 10th graders and 84 percent of 12th graders had ever had a date. Today, only 57 percent of 10th graders and 63 percent of 12th graders have dated.

■ In the 1990s, 81 percent of 12th graders, 72 percent of 10th graders, and 56 percent of 8th graders had tried alcohol. Today, those numbers have dropped to 67 percent, 51 percent, and 29 percent, respectively (which is a good thing, in my view). Over that same period, even college-age and post-college young people are refraining from drinking (from 92 percent in the 90s to 87 percent today).

■ Today's teens are less likely than those 20 years ago to go out without their parents, to go on dates, or to have sex.

The big question, of course, is "Why is this happening?" I think some of the decline—particularly in dating and going out without parents—is the result of smartphones and social media. With all the technology that's available, today's teens may actually be communicating with each other more than we did at their age. Although, if your goal is to have sex, there's no substitute for in-person communication. But we can't blame smartphones for everything. As Twenge and Park write, it's "unclear how internet use could cause teens to work less and drink alcohol less."

I also put some of the blame on parents. Because we're having children later and we're having fewer of them, we try to "protect" our "investment" by doing things for them—like giving them money instead of expecting them to earn their own, and driving them everywhere they need to go instead of expecting them to get a license, pay for their own insurance, and drive themselves. Given that, it makes sense to stay young for as long as possible, doesn't it?

Read Armin Brott's blog at www.DadSoup.com, follow him on Twitter, @mrdad, or send email to armin@mrdad.com.

DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES
PARENT EDUCATION SERVICES

Every parent is eligible to participate

Parent education services helps promote the development and productive skills to fulfill and strengthening the lifestyle in all families and all ethnicities in our communities.

Parent education program provides classes and support group to all parents here in the CNMI. Our goal is to build and "strengthening families" here on our beautiful islands by providing these classes and support group to give parents the opportunity to gain knowledge and be more equipped in the field of a parent role.

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PARENTS ANONYMOUS® PROGRAM

Our program not only provides classes but also has a support group which is called the Parents Anonymous® program. This program is an evidence-based family strengthening for any family seeking help and support. Parents Anonymous® program is a trauma informed practice utilizing mutual support, parent leadership, shared leadership and personal growth. In this services we also have Parents Anonymous® children & youth program to guide and help these children to be empowered and create positive and long-term change for their families.

PARENTS Anonymous®
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US:

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and
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Community Development Specialist II
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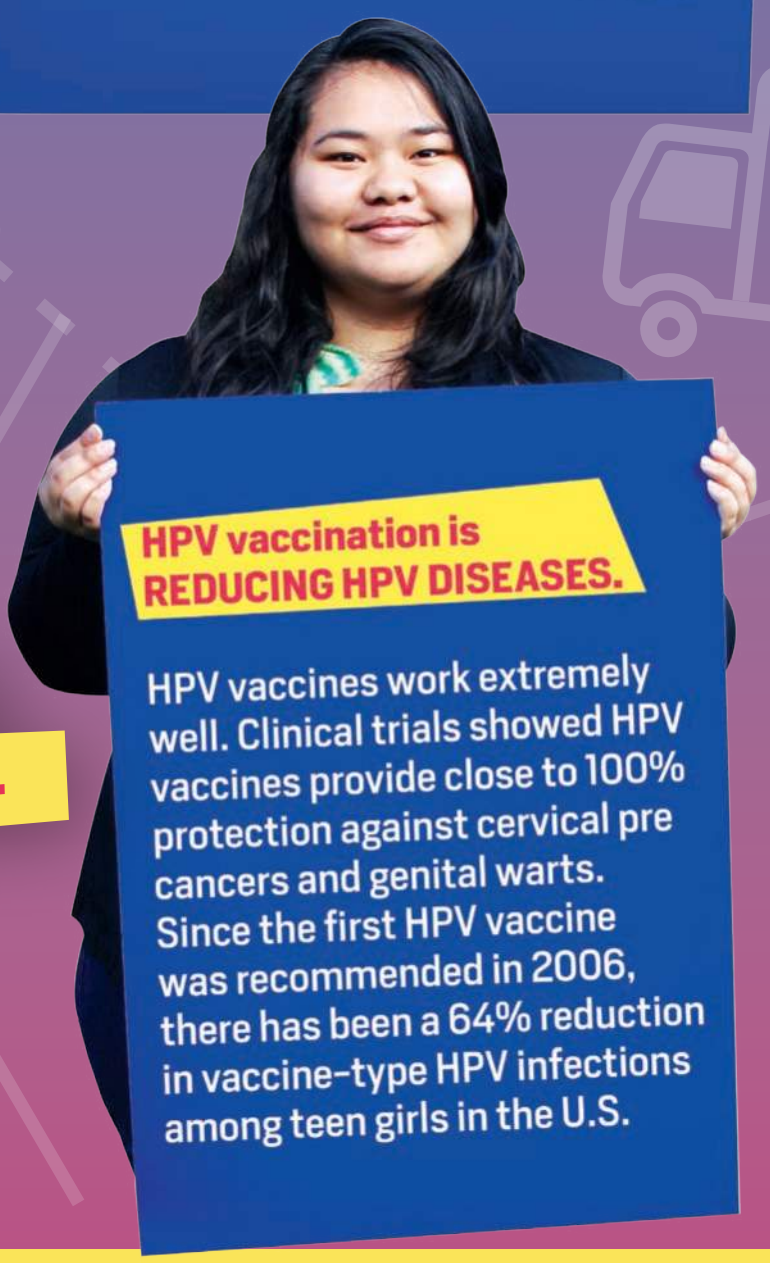
HPV vaccines have been proven safe and effective in protecting males and females against HPV related cancers when taken in the recommended age groups (beginning at 11 years old) to ensure they are protected at a young age before they become adults. Preteens should receive all recommended doses of the HPV vaccine series long before they begin any type of sexual activity. Once a person has HPV, the vaccine is no longer effective

HPV vaccination is the best way to PREVENT many types of CANCER.

The HPV vaccine is safe and effective. It protects against 9 HPV types and 6 kinds of cancer, which can include cervical, vaginal and vulvar cancers for women, cancer of the penis for men, and cancer of mouth/throat, anus/rectum for both men and women.



HPV vaccination is REDUCING HPV DISEASES.

HPV vaccines work extremely well. Clinical trials showed HPV vaccines provide close to 100% protection against cervical pre cancers and genital warts. Since the first HPV vaccine was recommended in 2006, there has been a 64% reduction in vaccine-type HPV infections among teen girls in the U.S.

FACT: IN THE U.S., 79 MILLION PEOPLE ARE CURRENTLY INFECTED WITH HPV HALF OF WHICH ARE AGED 15-24

COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORP. • COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS • Established October 2011

CDC CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH CNMI IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

VACCINES SAVE LIVES, TIME AND MONEY. IT'S SAFE AND EFFECTIVE.
VACCINES PROTECT US BY BUILDING IMMUNITY TO PREVENTABLE DISEASES.

Contact the Immunization Program at the Division of Public Health:
236-8745 (Saipan) I 433-9233 (Tinian) I 532-9457 (Rota)
Additional Tel. Nos.: 236-8708 / 8781 / 83 / 84 • For more info, visit www.cdc.gov.vaccines

BIG pays for Tinian students' chapter membership in NHS

SAN JOSE, Tinian—For the second year in a row, Tinian company Bridge Investment Group, LLC funded the annual membership fee of the Tinian Junior Senior High School Chapter with the National Honor Society for school year 2017-2018.

"On behalf of the TJSHS National Honor Society, we would like to thank Bridge Investment Group for generously sponsoring our chapter renewal membership fee," said chapter president Nicole Quichocho. "Their continuous and kind donations have been a great help to our society and students in general. [Bridge Investment Group] has strongly advocated the success of students and we greatly appreciate their support [for] the chapter."

Since its creation in 1921, the National Honor Society focuses on four main purposes to guide chapters: to create enthusiasm for scholarship; to stimulate a desire to render service; to promote leadership; and to develop character in the students. NHS serves to recognize those students who have demonstrated excellence in these four areas. These purposes also translate into the criteria used for membership selection in each local chapter.

Chapter membership also challenges students to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service.

The NHS members of TJSHS are encouraged to take part in Bridge Investment Group's Corporate Social Responsibility events that can count toward community service hours to fulfill their chapter membership requirements. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bridge Investment Group chief executive officer Phillip Mendiola-Long and assistant HR director Wayne Sanchez pose with National Honor Society members of the Tinian Junior Senior High School.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DPW-17-IFB-030

ROUTE 36 (WINDWARD/CHALAN KALABERA) ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT NO. CM-NH-0036 (004)

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Route 36 (Windward/Chalan Kalabera) Road Improvements**, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **September 29, 2017** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **October 18, 2017 9:00 a.m.** local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 17, 2017** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.
The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "**DPW-17-IFB-030**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time November 22, 2017**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, November 22, 2017**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to **procurement@pticom.com**. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 22, 2017** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **December 4, 2017**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, December 7, 2017**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time, on November 22, 2017**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety**. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of

the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations §70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Five Hundred Forty (540) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (US$3,300.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

James A. Ada
Secretary of Public Works

Herman S. Sablan
Director of Procurement & Supply

Department of Labor
CNMI-OSHA "FREE" On-Site Consultation Services:

Are you an employer who wants to protect your employees' safety and health, but who needs some expert assistance? Are you concerned that your business cannot afford the cost of professional help?

Call now! Good News in an Attractive Package: The Price is right!

Free – services are provided are free and supported by Federal funds.

Voluntary – Consultation services are voluntary, an employer must request service and agree to certain obligations, primarily that the employer agrees to correct all hazards found during the consultation visit within an agreed-upon time frame.

Smaller Business – Specifically designed for small and medium sized business – not more than 250 employees.

No Penalty – No citations are issued for hazards identified by the consultant, and no penalties are ever proposed

Confidentiality – Public disclosure & enforcement disclosure (consultation result not publicized or shared with OSHA enforcement). Except in situations where imminent danger or serious hazards are not corrected as agreed upon.

Full Service Consultation – Full service consultation covers all working conditions and includes assistance in establishing effective workplace safety and health programs, also may include training and education for you, supervisors, and your other employees.

Benefits – First and foremost, your increased understanding of workplace hazards and remedies will enable you to protect your workers from injury and illness.

Consultation in Action: Five (5) Steps to success
1) Requesting Assistance – Consultation starts with your request which may be telephone call, a letter, personal contact to CNMI-OSHA Office or email.
2) The opening conference
3) The Walkthrough
4) The closing conference
5) Hazard Correction After the Visit

Consultation will "NOT":
- Issue citations or propose penalties for violations of federal or states OSHA standard
- Guarantee that any workplace will "pass" a federal or state OSHA INSPECTIONS

When you request consultation service, by the completion of the process you will receive:
- An appraisal of all mechanical and environmental hazards and physical work practices;
- An appraisal of the present job safety and health program or the establishment of one;
- A conference to review findings;
- A written report of recommendations and agreements
- Training and assistance with implementing recommendations
- Follow-up by the consultant to ensure that any required corrections have been made

For more information please contact CNMI-OSHA On-Site Consultation Program at
Tel: No. 664-3156/3157, Cell: No. 287-7531
or visit our office
At Capitol Hill, 1338 Ascension Dr.
Ask for
Elaine Pangelinan
Joey Pangelinan
Or, Mariana Coates

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-028

TANK 104 REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL POWER PLANT 1, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Removal and Disposal of Tank 104 at Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan.

The project consists, of the Cutting for Disposal and Removal of Tank 104 (now empty and cleaned) together with off-site disposal of all tank materials, including its steel floor.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **90 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $50.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **October 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building. Prospective Bidders are mandated to attend both Pre-Bid and Site Visit.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-028 Removal and Disposal of Tank 104, Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 25, 2017,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 16, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Max Simian, CUC Technical Manager for Oil – via email max.simian@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Chamber meeting on Oct. 4

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have its monthly general membership meeting at the Saipan World Resort on Wednesday, Oct. 4. The luncheon begins at 11:30am and the meeting starts promptly at noon. Guest speakers feature Gary Camacho, executive director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., to update Chamber members on power generation, water programs, and the effect of the island's growth. Also speaking is Ray Reyes from SSFM, CNMI LLC about the comprehensive land use plan being updated for the Department of Public Lands. ***(PR)***

NMDC membership meeting

The Northern Marianas Descent Corp. will have a general membership meeting on Oct. 3, from 6om to 7pm, at the Carolinian *utt*. The meeting's agenda will cover public land leases, proposed land lease extensions, and the Northern Marianas Cultural Center.

The Northern Marianas Descent Corp. board of directors meeting will take place on Oct. 9 at 9am at the Garapan Community Development Center. ***(PR)***

DPL closed today

The Department of Public Lands will be closed today, Sept. 29, 2017, for an all-day professional development workshop. The DPL office on Tinian will be closed but the office on Rota will remain open. DPL will resume operation on Monday, Oct. 2, 2017. Contact DPL at (670) 234-3751 with any questions or concerns. ***(PR)***

Tinian mayor to request for military assistance

The Office of the Tinian Mayor intends to solicit assistance from the Department of Defense's Innovative Readiness Training Program. The assistance will include no-cost dental care and related services. The proposed assistance will take place at Tinian Health Center during the month of September 2018.

Dental providers or private citizens who have questions or who wish to voice opposition to military assistance for the project may contact Ignacio P. Kiyoshi Jr. at the Office of the Mayor at 433-1800/3222 no later than seven days after publication of this notice.

Persons not filing comments within the time frame noted will be considered to have waived their objections to military assistance for the project. Info can be found at http://irt.defense.gov/. ***(PR)***

Lions Club to celebrate 25th anniversary

The Saipan Fil-American Lions Club will be a host a fundraiser called "The Ultimate Drag Queen 2017" on Nov. 4 at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort, with VIP tickets priced at $25 and general admission at $10. Proceeds will be used for the club's community projects. Fourteen candidates will be competing. The show will be choreographed and directed by Ernie Molina. For more details and sponsorships, call SFALC president Annamae Adaza at 483-5237, vice president Lourdes Ortiz at 785-2306, VP Leony Mendoza at 287-7563, secretary Mario Mayuga at 285-1021, or Molina at 789-8212. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-002

KAGMAN WATERLINE & BOOSTER STATION REHABILITATION PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Kagman Waterline and Booster Station Rehabilitation Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

General Description: This work consists of replacing the existing Kumoi booster station and relocating it to the Chacha and Kagman Road intersection. It also includes the rehabilitation of an existing deep well, the installation of a new 6" PVC distribution, and the installation of a new 8" PVC transmission waterline along Kagman Road. It will also involve the reconnection of existing customers onto new or existing distribution lines within the project area.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from the USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **300 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **October 5, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building. Prospective Bidders are mandated to attend both the Pre-Bid Conference and the Site Visit.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-18-002, Kagman Waterline and Booster Station Rehabilitation Project",* to the **CUC Procurement & Supply Office**, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 26, 2017** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 10, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer- via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Nick Schreiner, Water-Wastewater, Engineer–via email address nick.schreiner@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bid documents, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-18-001

FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 & 2018

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to perform a financial and compliance audit of the CUC for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017 & 2018. The audit must be performed in compliance with the latest revision of the following guidelines:

- *OMB Circular A-133*
- *Standard for Audits of Government Organization, Programs, Activities and Function, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States*
- *Audits of States and Local Government Units, Industry Audit guide issued by the American Institute of Public Accountants (AICPA)*
- *Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS)*

The date of contract award will be no later than November 17, 2017. Audit work shall commence thereafter and must be completed by January 31, 2018 (FY17) & 2019 (FY18). Auditors are responsible to review all the 2017 & 2018 financial statements to include the physical CUC assets.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 for one RFP package set.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-RFP-18-001, Financial and Compliance Audit for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2017 & 2018**" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **October 23, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 10, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. , CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Antonio Castro, CUC Chief Financial Officer, via email address antonio.castro@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

2017 Business Summit

Turn Your Bright Idea Into Your Business

September 27, 2017

Aspire to Own

Thank You to Our Supporters!

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- Hon. Francisco M. Borja
- Hon. Francisco Q. Cruz
- Hon. Justo S. Quitugua
- Hon. Sixto K. Igisomar
- Hon. Janet U. Maratita
- Hon. Blas Jonathan T. Attao
- Hon. Francisco S. Dela Cruz
- Hon. Joseph Lee Deleon Guerrero
- Hon. Jose I. Itibus
- Hon. Edwin K. Propst
- Hon. Edmund S. Villagomez
- Saipan & Northern Islands Legislative Delegation
  - Chairman John Paul P. Sablan, Vice Chairman Sixto K. Igisomar, & Members
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- Hon. Joey P. San Nicolas
- Hon. David Apatang
- Central Statistics Division
- Commonwealth Development Authority
- Garapan Public Market
- Marianas Visitors Authority
- Northern Marianas College
- Office of Grants Management-Office of the Governor
- Anthony Quenga
- Bank of Guam
- Boka Boka
- DFS Saipan Limited
- Dial Rent-to-Own
- Global Insurance Company
- Great Harvest Bread Company
- Herman's Modern Bakery
- Ideal Signs/Saipan Computer Services
- Imperial Pacific International
- IT&E
- KKMP
- Laila Younis Boyer
- Marianas Variety News & Views
- Marianas Pacific Distributors, Inc.
- Mike Manglona
- Music of the Marianas Association
- Natural Nail Spa
- Nila's Hair Salon
- Pacific Islands Club
- Pacifica Insurance Underwriters
- Sorenson Media
- Tan Sui Lin Foundation

Thank You to Our Distinguished Panelists

Color Me Green
Money Talks

- John Arroyo, *President/CEO, Bank of Saipan*
- Marcie Tomokane, *Vice President/CNMI Regional Manager, Bank of Guam*
- Rose Sumor, *Vice President/Saipan Branch Manager, Bank of Hawaii*
- Marvin Deleon Guerrero, *Assistant Vice President/Saipan Branch Manager, Bank Pacific*
- Marie Coleman, *Loan Officer, Commonwealth Development Authority*
- Oscar Camacho, *Economic Development Analyst, Commonwealth Development Authority*
- Nicole Babauta, *Administrator, CNMI Small Business Development Center*

Would My Idea Work?
Nurturing Opportunities: Opportunities in View

- Don Browne, *Senior Vice President Operations, Imperial Pacific International*
- Alex Sablan, *Vice President, Tan Holdings Corporation*
- Perry Inos, Jr., *Operations Manager, Triple J Saipan*
- Phillip Mendiola-Long, *Chief Executive Officer, Bridge Investment Group*

Let's Be Buddies
Cultivating Relationships

- Milan Rabold, *General Manager, DFS Saipan Limited*
- Thomas "TJ" Manglona, *Co-Founder & General Manager, Tribes Marianas*
- Jamika Taijeron, *Promotion Manager, DFS Saipan Limited*
- Marco Peter, *Owner, Coco Limited*
- Joe Ayuyu Jr., *General Manager, McDonald's Middle Road Saipan*
- Anna "Annie" Hayes, *General Manager, Herman's Modern Bakery*
- John Blanco, Owner, *Sablan Topline*
- Jay Wolf, Co-Owner, *Saipan Brewing Company*
- Arielle Buyum, *Owner, AB Consulting*

I Can Make It. Can I Ship It?
Nurturing Opportunities: Opportunities Abroad

- John Holman, *Director – Pacific, US Commercial Services*
- Kenneth Lujan, *Guam Branch Manager, Small Business Administration*
- Christopher Concepcion, *Managing Director, Marianas Visitor's Authority*
- Phillip Mendiola-Long, *Council Member, Hawaii Pacific District Export Council*
- Jose C. Mafnas, *Director, Division of Customs*
- Manuel A. Tenorio, *Director, Division of Agriculture*

Back to Our Roots
In the Spotlight: Agriculture & Fishery

- Ramon "RB" Camacho, *Acting Board President, Saipan Farmer's Market*
- Michael Ogo, *Program Lead for Agriculture, NMC CREES*
- Dr. Carmen Fernandez, *President, Northern Marianas College*
- Manuel A. Tenorio, *Director, Division of Agriculture*
- Epiphanio E. Cabrera, Jr., *Administrator, CNMI Grants Office*
- John P. Sanchez, *Assistant Adminstrator, CNMI Grants Office*
- Diego Benavente, *Fisherman*

Throw Me a Lifeline Please
Partners for Success

- Kenneth Lujan, *Guam Branch Manager, Small Business Administration*
- Hon. Edmund S. Villagomez, *Representative*
- Hon. Joseph Lee T. Guerrero, *Commerce & Tourism Chair*
- Hon. Francisco M. Borja, *Economic Development & Programs Chair*
- Hon. Sixto K. Igisomar, *Economic Development & Program, Member*
- Matthew O. Deleon Guerrero, *Chief of Staff, Governor's Office*
- Tinian Mayor's Office Representative
- Ivan T. Mereb, Councilman, *16th Rota Municipal Council*
- Mark O. Rabauliman, *Secretary of Commerce*

Business

Now even money is running out in storm-hit Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—First, Hurricane Maria knocked out power and water to Puerto Rico. Then diesel fuel, gas and water became scarce. Now, it's money.

The aftermath of the powerful storm has resulted in a near-total shutdown of the U.S. territory's economy that could last for weeks and has many people running seriously low on cash and worrying that it will become even harder to survive on this storm-ravaged island.

There are long lines at the banks that are open with reduced hours or the scattered ATMs that are operational amid an islandwide power outage and near total loss of telecommunications. Many people are unable to work or run their businesses because diesel to run generators is in short supply or they can't spend all day waiting for gas to fill their car.

Engineer Octavio Cortes predicts it will only get worse because so many of the problems are inter-connected and cannot be easily resolved.

"I don't know how much worse it's going to get," Cortes said as he joined other motorists stopping on a bridge over a river in northern Puerto Rico to catch a faint cellphone signal. "Right now it's manageable, but I don't know about next week or after that."

The father of six typically works from home or travels around the world for his job, but neither approach is possible now because the power is still out for nearly all 3.4 million people in Puerto Rico and flights off the island are down to only a few each day.

While Cortes is OK for the moment, others don't have nearly the same resources.

Cruzita Mojica is an employee of the Puerto Rico Treasury Department in San Juan. While she, like many public sector workers, has been called back to work she can't go because she has to care for her elderly mother in the aftermath of the storm. She got up at 3:30 a.m. Wednesday and went to four ATM machines only to find each one empty.

"Of course I took out money before the hurricane, but it's gone already," she said. "We're without gasoline. Without money. Without food. This is a disaster."

Surgical technician Dilma Gonzalez said she had only $40 left and her job hasn't called people back to work yet in the capital. "Until they let us know otherwise, I'm not supposed to go back," she said with a shrug as she pressure washed the street in front of her house, sending muddy debris flying.

All are struggling with the overwhelming devastation of Hurricane Maria, which began tearing across the island early in the morning of Sept. 20 as a Category 4 storm with winds of 155 mph. It destroyed the entire electricity grid while grinding up homes, businesses, roads and farms. At least 16 people were killed. There still is no exact tally of the cost and full extent of the damage, but Gov. Ricardo Rossello says it will bring a complete halt to the economy for at least a month.

"This is the single biggest, major catastrophe in the history of Puerto Rico, bar none, and it is probably the biggest hurricane catastrophe in the United States," Rossello said Wednesday as he delivered aid to the southern town of Salinas, whose mayor says 100 percent of the agriculture there was wiped out when the wind tore up plantain, corn, vegetables and other crops.

Trump plan promises huge tax cuts, but big questions remain

WASHINGTON (AP)—Promising big tax cuts and a booming economy, President Donald Trump and congressional Republicans unveiled the first major revamp of the nation's tax code in a generation Wednesday — a sweeping, nearly $6 trillion tax cut that would deeply reduce levies for corporations, simplify everyone's brackets and nearly double the standard deduction used by most Americans.

Trump declared repeatedly the plan would provide badly needed tax relief for the middle class. But there are too many gaps in the proposal to know how it actually would affect individual taxpayers and families, how it would be paid for and how much it might add to the soaring $20 trillion national debt.

There clearly would be seismic changes for businesses large and small, with implications for companies beyond U.S. borders. The American middle-class family of four could take advantage of a heftier child tax credit and other deductions but face uncertainty about the rate its household income would be taxed.

"Under our framework, we will dramatically cut the business tax rate so that American companies and American workers can beat our foreign competitors and start winning again," Trump boasted at a speech in Indiana.

Democrats predictably felt differently.

"Each of these proposals would result in a massive windfall for the wealthiest Americans and provide almost no relief to middle-class taxpayers who need it most," Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said at the Capitol.

Some Republicans, once fiscally demanding but now desperate for a legislative win after a yearlong drought, shrugged off the specter of adding billions to the federal deficit. Failure on taxes, after the collapse of health care repeal, could cost the GOP dearly in next year's midterm elections with its House majority at stake.

"This is a now-or-never moment," said House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., who built his reputation on tax and budget issues.

Likewise, Trump said in Indianapolis, "This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity."

But the bitterly divided, Republican-led Congress faces critical decisions on eliminating or reducing tax breaks and deductions, with the GOP intent on producing a package without Democratic votes by year's end. The last major overhaul in 1986 was bipartisan, and Trump was courting Democrats. One vulnerable incumbent, Indiana Sen. Joe Donnelly, accompanied the president on his trip to Indianapolis.

Trump and the architects of the Republican plan insist that the overhaul is aimed squarely at benefiting the middle class and wouldn't favor the wealthy. Still, a cut in the tax rate for Americans making a half-million dollars or more would drop by almost 5 percentage points as the wealthiest sliver of the nation reaped tremendous benefits.

Corporations would see their top tax rate cut from 35 percent to 20 percent. For a period of five years, companies could further reduce how much they pay by immediately writing off their investments. That's all part of an effort that Trump said would make U.S. businesses more competitive globally.

The plan would collapse the number of personal tax brackets from seven to three.

Nation

Trump mulls cargo waiver for Puerto Rico as criticism builds

WASHINGTON (AP)—Under pressure to do more to help hurricane-ravaged Puerto Rico, President Donald Trump said Wednesday his administration was considering waiving a little-known federal law that prohibits foreign-flagged ships from shuttling goods between U.S. ports.

AP

Residents from Juana Matos buy groceries at Catano Mini Market in the middle of a supply shortage caused by the passage of Hurricane Maria, in Catano, Puerto Rico, Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2017.

Republicans and Democrats have pushed Trump to waive the Jones Act, saying it could help get desperately needed supplies delivered to the island more quickly and at less cost.

Acting Homeland Security Secretary Elaine Duke waived the law earlier this month to help ease fuel shortages in the Southeast following hurricanes Harvey and Irma. That order included Puerto Rico, but expired last week shortly after Hurricane Maria struck.

The Trump administration has said a waiver is not needed this time, because there are enough U.S. flagged ships available to ferry goods to Puerto Rico. Officials at the Homeland Security Department, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the issue by name, said the bottleneck is with unloading cargo at the island's damaged ports and getting the supplies inland. They made the remarks in a background conference call with reporters to justify the administration's decision.

Asked about that decision as he left the White House to pitch his tax plan at an event in Indiana, however, Trump suggested he may be open to changing course. He said some U.S. shipping executives opposed a temporary waiver.

"Well, we're thinking about that," the president said. "But we have a lot of shippers and a lot of people and a lot of people who work in the shipping industry that don't want the Jones Act lifted. And we have a lot of ships out there right now."

Republicans and Democrats were pressing the issue. Even before the storm hit, shipping household and commercial goods to Puerto Rico cost roughly double what it did to nearby Jamaica and the Dominican Republic, where foreign vessels are free to dock. The U.S. Virgin Islands were granted a permanent legal waiver from the Jones Act by Congress, but not Puerto Rico.

House, Senate inviting social media giants to testify

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House and Senate intelligence committees are inviting tech giants Facebook, Twitter and Alphabet — the parent company of Google — to appear for public hearings as part of their investigations into Russia's interference in the 2016 election, The Associated Press has learned.

The House intelligence committee is planning to hold a hearing in October and the Senate intelligence committee has invited witnesses to appear Nov. 1. The announcements of public hearings come the day before Twitter is scheduled to hold closed-door staff briefings with both panels.

Rep. Adam Schiff of California, the top Democrat on the House intelligence committee, confirmed the House hearing in an interview with the AP, though he noted a date had not yet been set.

In a joint statement, Schiff and Republican Rep. Mike Conaway from Texas, who is leading the House investigation, said they will hold an open hearing in the coming month "with representatives from tech companies in order to better understand how Russia used online tools and platforms to sow discord in and influence our election."

They added, "Congress and the American people need to hear this important information directly from these companies."

The details of the invitation from the Senate intelligence committee were confirmed by two people familiar with the panel's interactions with the companies. They spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the private invitations.

It's not yet clear whether the companies will accept the invitations to appear. Facebook and Google confirmed they had received the Senate invitations and Twitter declined to comment.

The hearings come as both panels have been scrutinizing the ways that the social media platforms and online ads were used by Russians to influence the election. The committees are examining the spread of false news stories and propaganda and whether anyone in the United States helped target those stories to specific users on social media platforms.

In the closed-door briefings Thursday, Twitter's representatives will likely face questions about the spread of false news stories and propaganda through the use of fake accounts and automated bot networks.

In a statement this month, Twitter said it "deeply respects the integrity of the election process," and it has worked to combat "bots and other forms of manipulation that violate our Terms of Service."

Lawmakers have also been calling for more information from Facebook, which last week agreed to provide the committee with the content of about 3,000 ads, bought by a Russian agency, that were aimed at stirring up divisive political and social issues. Some of those ads included references to presidential candidates in the 2016 election.

Asia

Ex-Thai leader sentenced in absentia to 5 years in prison

BANGKOK (AP)—A Thai court on Wednesday sentenced former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, whose government was ousted in a 2014 military coup, in absentia to five years in prison for alleged negligence in a money-losing rice subsidy program.

Yingluck, who has said the charges are politically motivated, is believed to have fled the country last month before the original date of the verdict. Her lawyers said on Wednesday that they have no idea where she is.

Yingluck's conviction had been widely expected, as the military remains firmly in charge and the courts have a record of antipathy toward her politically influential family.

Thailand's military government has doggedly pursued Yingluck in court. In an earlier, separate administrative ruling that froze her bank accounts, she was held responsible for about $1 billion of the up to $17 billion in alleged losses resulting from the rice subsidy program — an astounding personal penalty that prosecutors argued she deserved because she ignored warnings of corruption but continued the program anyway.

Shinawatra

Yingluck and her supporters say she is innocent and was prosecuted as part of an effort to dismantle the political machine of her brother, former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, a telecommunications tycoon.

Thaksin was toppled from power by a 2006 military coup after being accused of abuse of power, corruption and disrespect for the monarchy. He is living in self-imposed exile to avoid serving a prison term from a 2008 conviction on a conflict of interest charge.

Yingluck, who inherited the leadership of Thaksin's political machine and was elected prime minister in 2011, became a proxy target for his enemies as well.

Despite her absence Wednesday, scores of supporters turned up at court but were outnumbered by police.

"We can only accept the court's decision," said Pattana Meethai, 63, one of the supporters. "I'm not surprised. I'm quite used to the courts ruling in this fashion."

The rice subsidy scheme was a flagship policy that helped Yingluck's Pheu Thai Party win the 2011 general election. The government paid farmers about 50 percent above what they would have received on the world market, with the intention of driving up prices by warehousing the grain.

Instead, other rice-producing countries captured the market by selling at competitive prices. As a result, Vietnam and then India replaced Thailand as the world's leading rice exporter, and large amounts of rice sat unsold in government warehouses.

Prosecutors argued that Yingluck was guilty of dereliction of duty. Her critics describe the overriding motive of the rice subsidy program as political, an effort to buy the loyalty of rural voters with state funds.

A co-defendant, her commerce minister, received a 42-year prison sentence for concocting a false government-to-government rice sale, which was one of the allegations cited by the court in its verdict against Yingluck.

ASIAN BRIEFS

PH official: Duterte's bank accounts being probed

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte respects a reported investigation being conducted by an anti-graft agency of allegations that he has undeclared wealth hidden in bank accounts, his spokesman said Wednesday, adding "the president has nothing to hide." Presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella issued the statement in reaction to news reports that the Ombudsman, a key government anti-graft agency, has been looking into the allegations against Duterte since last year and has obtained bank records showing large amounts of transactions in past years. Duterte has denied any wrongdoing and publicly vowed to resign if anybody can prove he or any of his children were involved in corruption. He won the presidency last year with a large margin on a vow to eradicate crime and corruption. The ABS-CBN TV network cited Deputy Ombudsman Arthur Carandang as saying that his agency has received Duterte's bank records from before he became president from 2006 to 2016 and that they show millions of pesos (millions of dollars) being transacted in joint accounts with his children.

Poll: Majority of Filipinos don't believe police in killings

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—More than half of Filipinos believe many of the suspects killed in President Rodrigo Duterte's campaign against illegal drugs did not fight back as reported by police to justify the killings, according to an independent survey released Wednesday. Social Weather Stations, or SWS, said 54 percent of 1,200 adult Filipinos it surveyed from June 23 to 26 agreed that many of those killed by police in the crackdown did not really put up resistance. The nationwide, face-to-face survey had a margin of error of 3 percentage points.SWS said 25 percent of those polled said they were undecided and the rest disagreed. Duterte and police officials have denied allegations of extrajudicial killings by police enforcing his crackdown, which has left thousands of people dead since he became president last year.

Japan PM Abe dissolves lower house, calls snap election

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe dissolved the lower house of parliament Thursday, paving the way for a snap election that is expected to be held Oct. 22. The speaker of the house, Tadamori Oshima, read the statement of dissolution. Lower house members all stood up and chanted "banzai" three times in a dissolution ritual, then rushed out of the assembly hall. Abe is widely seen as trying to reconsolidate his grip on power within the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party, so he can extend the term of his premiership next year. The dissolution of the more powerful of Japan's two-chamber parliament comes more than a year before required by law. The ruling party, though, faces a growing challenge from a new party launched by Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike this week. The Party of Hope has energized some voters, and is gaining renegade lawmakers from the main opposition party. Minutes after the dissolution, Abe made a fiery speech to party members.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
INVITATION TO BID (ITB)
ITB17-CHCC/HA-004
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 02, 2017 TIME: 11:00AM
"LAPARASCOPIC CHOLECYSTECTOMY SYSTEM, HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR
ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES
FOR THE
BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
TERMINAL DRAINAGE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
PROJECT NO. CPA-RA-003-17

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Architectural/Engineering Design Services for the project including onsite assessment, survey, possible exploratory investigation and preparation of design with plans and specifications to improve or replace the drainage system at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

The project is being funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package.

Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager, at (670) 237-6500, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to cpa.engr@pticom.com and wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, October 13, 2017, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Overall A/E design experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island – (30 points);
2. A/E Design experience related to airport projects – (30 points);
3. Level of proficiency in performing A/E services promptly, on time and within proposed schedule – (15 points);
4. The general reputation of the Consultant in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services, and the Consultant's professional integrity and competence – (15 points);
6. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal – (10 points).

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2017.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all travel costs and taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: September 26, 2017

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
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E-mail: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-001-18
SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 31, 2017 TIME: 2:00 p.m.
"LEASE AND IMPROVEMENT OF ECHO DOCK"
PORT OF SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

THE PROPOSAL PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 29, 2017.

PROPOSERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND THREE (3) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED: CONFIDENTIAL "LEASE AND IMPROVEMENT OF ECHO DOCK (RFP-001-18)". PROPOSERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS PROPOSAL. ALL PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED AT THE CPA ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR OF THE ARRIVAL TERMINAL BY OCTOBER 31, 2017 AT 2:00 P.M..

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: 9/27/17

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP17-CHCC/BUSINESS OFFICE- 27
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 09, 2017 TIME: 1:00PM
"CHARGEMASTER, BUSINESS OFFICE, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP17-CHCC/FACILITY-26
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 09, 2017 TIME: 1:00PM
"LAUNDRY & LINEN SERVICES, FACILITY, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

World

Mexicans displaced by quake: 'This is like a horror story'

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Inside the Francisco Kino Elementary School a miniature city has emerged at the site of a shelter for people who lost their homes in last week's deadly earthquake.

On the school's open-air courtyard, doctors test blood pressure and glucose levels at a makeshift triage center set up on a plastic table. Nearby, children get haircuts while stressed-out parents receive massages.

■■■

MEXICO CITY (AP)—President Enrique Pena Nieto said Wednesday that preliminary accounting of the damage caused by the two big earthquakes that hit Mexico this month could cost upward of $2 billion (38.1 billion pesos).

Pena Nieto stressed that damage assessments were continuing, especially in hard-hit Mexico City. But preliminary estimates put repairing and rebuilding schools in several states and the capital at nearly $750 million (13.6 billion pesos).

Repairing and rebuilding homes will be $550 million (10 billion pesos). Damage to cultural sites could reach $440 million (8 billion pesos).

The government is making direct electronic transfers to victims of a magnitude 8.1 earthquake and aftershocks in Chiapas and Oaxaca to the tune of $356 million (6.5 billion pesos) so they can begin repairing their homes.

"I hope that in the new year we will be able to have also a new Mexico, rebuilt and in normal conditions," Pena Nieto said.

Authorities raised the death toll from last week's magnitude 7.1 earthquake in central Mexico to 338 on Wednesday.

■■■

But frustration is growing inside the gym, where families camp out on mattresses alongside piles of new, donated belongings. Days without easy access to a shower and the loss of simple liberties like deciding when to turn out a light to go to asleep have become aggravating.

They want to know: How long will they be stuck here?

"This is like a horror story," said Ana Maria Castaneda, 49, who is living at the shelter with five relatives.

More than 12,000 people whose homes were destroyed or damaged by the magnitude 7.1 quake have spent at least one night in a shelter since the quake, the Mexican government says.

Officials pledged Tuesday to give families chased from their homes a monthly payment of 3,000 pesos — the equivalent of about $170 — to find a new place to live for a total of three months. But an average one-bedroom apartment outside Mexico City's center can easily run twice as much.

"We will directly support families with resources and materials to repair damages or build a new home," President Enrique Pena Nieto said in a televised address Tuesday night.

Government employees fanned out Tuesday urging the 25 families living at the Francisco Kino school to visit a nearby park where officials have set up areas for victims to sign up for benefits, but the suggestion was met with skepticism and resistance. If they went to the plaza, some people worried, they might lose their coveted spots at the shelter. Some 500 families were forced from nearby apartment buildings after one collapsed and the school had space only for two dozen.

Catalan leader says Europe can't ignore independence vote

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—The leader of Catalonia accused the European Union on Wednesday of "turning its back" on the Spanish region in its conflict with the central government over a disputed independence vote planned for Sunday that Spanish authorities have vowed to prevent.

"They are very brave when they talk about other countries where they have no competencies, but where are they when we citizens need them?" Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont said of EU officials four days before the secession referendum. "Is Europe's solution to Catalans to turn its back?"

Puigdemont also told The Associated Press he intends to make the divisive matter of Catalonia's independence into a European affair rather than just a domestic issue.

"If the yes wins, I will make an appeal for the European community to become involved, because we will have won our right to be heard, something that hasn't happened until now because the European Commission has always turned a deaf ear (to Catalonia)," the 54-year-old separatist leader said.

Sunday's vote, Puigdemont said, will allow Europe to "hear the voice of Catalonia in a very loud and strong way."

No country, within or outside the European Union, has openly expressed support for the Oct. 1 referendum that Spain's conservative government sees as illegal. U.S. President Donald Trump said Tuesday he thought it would be "foolish" for Catalans to break away from Spain.

"Whoever doesn't want to hear our voice needs to see a political otolaryngologist," Puigdemont said, using the formal term for an ear, nose and throat specialist.

He added that if European Commission president Jean Claude-Juncker cannot grasp the determination in Catalonia, "then it*s because this (European) project is in bad hands."

Spain's Constitutional Court, which has previously ruled that only central authorities can call such a vote and that all Spanish nationals should vote on sovereignty matters, has suspended the referendum.

The pro-independence regional government has so far ignored court rulings and vowed to go ahead with the vote. Officials of the executive and legislative branches are under investigation and a heavy police presence has been assembled in the northeastern region as the day for Catalans to cast ballots nears.

Madrid has launched an unprecedented crackdown to stop the referendum, including seizing paper ballots, removing referendum propaganda and ordering schools to be sealed off so they can't be used as voting stations.

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan MP 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

As of September 29, 2017

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Kwon & Byun Corporation Dba Saipan Atty Dive	09/07/2017 SLRm-2016-X-075	Marine Sports-Renewal SCUBA	All Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 09/07/2017
2. Blue Sea Sports, Inc.	09/11/2017 SLRm-96-X-55	Marine Sports-Renewal SCUBA	All Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 09/18/2017
3. Saipan International Dive Center, Inc.	09/14/2017 SLRm-2014-X-040	Marine Sports-Renewal SCUBA	All Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 9/18/2017
4. Open Knowledge System, Inc. dba Dive Fellows	09/14/2017 SLRm-2005-X-113	Marine Sports-Renewal SCUBA	All Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 9/19/2017
5. Wang's Corporation	09/13/2017 ~~SLRm-2015-X-058~~ SLRm-2017-X-108 (Issued new #)	Marine Sports-New Snorkel	All Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 9/20/2017
6. Saipan Coral Reef, Inc. SLRm-2001-X-128	09/20/2017 SCUBA	Marine Sports-Renewal	All Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 9/22/2017
7. Terry Corporation dba Blue Bay Diving Shop	9/20/2017 SLRm-2016-X-078	Marine Sports-Renewal SCUBA	All Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 9/22/2017
8. R.J.B. Corporation	09/13/2017 SLRm-2017-X-109	Marine Sports-New Snorkel	Grotto, PauPau Beach, & Forbidden Island	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
9. Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA)	09/15/2017 SSCHIPWm-2017-X-110	Construction of COTA transit bus pads & bus stop signboard	All Major Routes in Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Under Review*
10. Keith J. Stewart (Isa Villas, Partners, LLC)	09/20/2017 SMS-2017-X-111	3 Story concrete building with 3 & 4 bedroom units	Capitol Hill	Major Siting	Under Review*

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

WORLD BRIEFS

Greece: 25 migrants rescued, 1 child dies in boat accident

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greek authorities say more than 20 migrants have been rescued after their boat either sank or capsized overnight near the small southeastern island of Kastellorizo, while a child among them died later in a hospital. Greece's coast guard said Thursday a vessel from the European border agency Frontex initially picked up six people found in the sea northwest of Kastellorizo, and a search was begun to find other potential survivors. One of the six, a 9-year-old girl, was transported to a hospital but later died, the coast guard said. Search crews later found and rescued another 20 people from the island's rocky coast. It was unclear what type of vessel the migrants had used. The coast guard said the search and rescue operation was continuing.

CEO: Qatar Airways will fly to Irbil as long as it's safe

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—A state news agency is quoting the CEO of Qatar Airways as saying his airline will continue to fly to Irbil "as long as its airspace remains open and there are no security issues." That's according to a late Wednesday night report by the state-run Qatar News Agency. It quoted CEO Akbar al-Baker as making the comments at a tourism event in Doha. Qatar Airways is the only one of three major long-haul Gulf carriers to fly into Irbil. Iraq's Transport Ministry ordered international airlines to halt service to Irbil, the Kurdish regional capital, and Sulaimaniyah, its second city, beginning Friday evening. That's due to tensions over an independence referendum held this week in Iraq's Kurdish region and disputed territories. Low-cost carrier FlyDubai says it is halting flights from Saturday.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Corn maze marks 100th anniversary of women voting in New York

SCOTTSVILLE, N.Y. (AP)—An upstate New York farm is marking the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in the state in distinctly fall fashion, with a corn maze in the shape of Susan B. Anthony. Stokoe Farms' owner Suzanne Stokoe says she wanted to honor one of Rochester's most famous citizens with the three-acre maze, which features the activist's profile and her house, which has been turned into a museum. This year is the centennial of women's voting rights in New York. Three years later, in 1920, ratification of the 19th Amendment gave all American women the right to vote.

Graveyard plaque of Wild West figure was buried, not stolen

PRESCOTT, Ariz. (AP)—It turns out the graveyard plaque of the common-law wife of legendary gunfighter John Henry "Doc" Holiday was just six inches under, not stolen from a cemetery. The plaque at the Arizona Pioneers' Home Cemetery in Prescott had been reported stolen recently. But the Prescott Daily Courier reports that a voluntary caretaker found the plaque in mud under a hole at the grave of Mary Katherine Horony-Cummings, also known as Big Nose Kate. Holiday played a central role in the infamous gunfight at the O.K. Corral in 1881 in what was then the Arizona territory.

Pioneers' Home interim Superintendent Dale Sams says the plaque had sunk into the ground, which had been softened and waterlogged by monsoon rains, and then covered by flowing mud. Volunteer caretaker Denise Meyers says the plaque needs cleaning but is intact. Horony-Cummings died Nov. 2, 1940, at age 89. She was buried under the name "Mary K. Cummings."

It took 66 million years, but California gets state dinosaur

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—It took about 66 million years, but California finally has a state dinosaur. Gov. Jerry Brown announced Saturday the signing of a bill making *Augustynolophus morrisi* the official dinosaur of the Golden State. Fossilized remains of the duckbilled creature that lived anywhere from 100 to 66 million years ago have been found only in California. Several other states and Washington, D.C., also have official dinosaurs. California has more than 30 state insignia including a state lichen—lace lichen—and a state fabric, denim.

Police: Stolen RV recovered with about 10 dogs still inside

FEDERAL WAY, Wash. (AP)—Police in western Washington state say they've recovered a stolen motor home and reunited its owner with about 10 dogs that were inside. Authorities tell KING-TV that police in Lacey on Saturday also took into custody one person in connection with the case.

Officials say someone stole the Winnebago on Friday evening from the parking lot of a Federal Way sporting goods store. That's about 35 miles (56 kilometers) from where police in Lacey recovered the vehicle. Police say surveillance video shows a young man with black hair and a red, white and black backpack stealing the RV. Police say the show and service dogs include a Doberman pinscher, five toy fox terrier puppies, three miniature pinschers and a poodle.

Pennsylvania high school golfer has 2 holes-in-one in round

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (AP)—A Pennsylvania high school golfer has defied huge odds by recording two holes-in-one in the same round. Parkland High School golfer Ben Tetzlaff tells The (Allentown) Morning Call he still can't believe the feat, which came during a nine-hole practice round Monday at Iron Lakes Country Club. The National Hold-In-One Registry calculated the odds of the feat at 67 million-to-1. Parkland coach Scott Levan says he missed the first ace, but saw the second when Tetzlaff hit a 9-iron on the 140-yard sixth hole. Tetzlaff had already sunk a gap wedge on the 104-yard second hole. Tetzlaff's career-low round is a 76 he shot at Allentown Municipal Golf Course. He hopes to play golf in college.

Cops: Owner taken for ride when test driver leaves with car

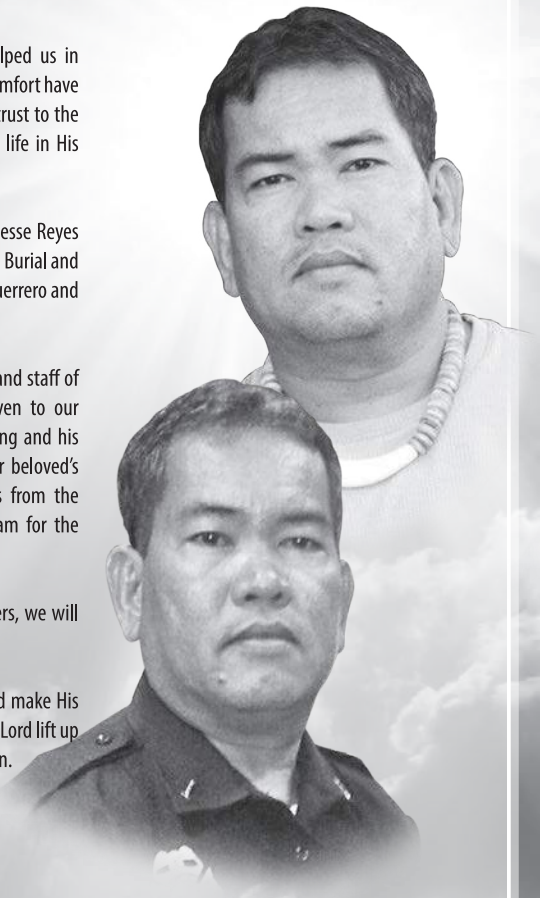
DILLSBURG, Pa. (AP)—Police in Pennsylvania say a man hoping to sell his car was taken for a ride when a prospective buyer drove away without him and never came back. Police in Carroll Township in York County say the bizarre theft occurred Tuesday night.

Investigators say the car's owner advertised it online and met a man interested in buying his red 1995 Acura Integra with a charcoal gray hood. The owner drove the prospective buyer around for a while, then stopped and got out of the car to let the prospective buyer get into the driver's seat. But police say the buyer drove away in the car before the owner could get back in. The car was last seen in Dillsburg on Route 15, possibly headed toward Philadelphia.

In Humble Gratitude

We are blessed with God's gift of family and friends who have come from far and near to share with us the mourning of our beloved

†JOSEPH RAYMOND DUENAS ALDAN



Your thoughtfulness and support have greatly helped us in bearing the sorrow of our great loss. Your words of comfort have given us the strength and courage to let go and entrust to the Lord our beloved, where he now dwells in eternal life in His lovely and promised paradise.

We would like to thank deeply from our hearts Fr. Jesse Reyes for presiding over the celebration of Mass of Christian Burial and the altar servers. Thank you to our techa Ms. Alice Guerrero and to Olomwaay family choir.

We extend our appreciation to the Doctors, nurses and staff of CHCC for all their assistance and the comfort given to our beloved. Our special thanks to Mayor David Apatang and his staff for all the work and preparation done for our beloved's funeral. Si Yu'us Ma'ase our beloved's colleagues from the Commonwealth Ports Authoriity and the ARRF Team for the honors given to our beloved.

As you have remembered our beloved in your prayers, we will also remember you and your loved ones in ours.

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Olomwaay and Thank you.

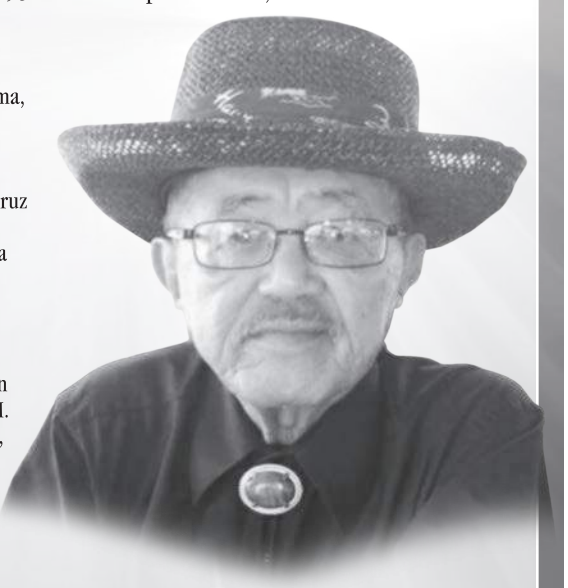
Lucretia "Lou" Tudela Aldan, Children and family

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

†JOAQUIN CRUZ LIZAMA

Better known as "Akin Batitang" (Akin Monica)

Born: February 12, 1938 • Died: Septrember 26, 2017



In his new life he now joins his:

Wife: †Monica Cruz Lizama
Sons: †Martin C. Lizama, †Augustin C. Lizama, †Norbert C. Lizama
Parents: †Jose Mendiola Lizama and †Rita Cruz Lizama
Parents In-Law: †Frederico Taitingfong Cruz and †Antonia Teregeyo Cruz
Granddaughter: †Kiara Monica M. Lizama
Sisters/Brothers/Spouses/In-Laws: †Trinidad Cepeda, †Manuel C. Lizama, †Maria L. Kaipat, †Ana C. Lizama, †Carmen L. & †Jose Torres, †Jose C. Lizama, †Benedicto C. Lizama, †Ramon C. Lizama, †Jesus Tyqueingco, †Juan M. Aguon, †Maria B. Cruz, †Ricardo Cruz, †Henrique & †Ana R. Cruz, †Rufina & †Jose Duenas

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Children/Spouses/Grandchildren/ Great Grandchildren
†Martin C. Lizama and family
Raymond & Susan Palacios and family
Joaquin Jr. & Frances D. Lizama and family
Jenidina L. & Joaquin C. Babauta and family
Melva L. & Wayne Perry and family
Edwin & Vivian M. Lizama and daughter
Nardin & Lorenza H. Lizama and family
Audybert C. Lizama and family
Zenaida L. & Stanley S. Santos and family
Frederico & Jessica DLC Lizama and family
Claudia & Anthony K. Leon Guerrero and family
Antonia L. & Irvin DLC Songao and family
Rita Lizama. & John T. Blas and family
Vanessa Cruz & family
Morendie C. & Anthony B. Aguon and family

Reared Children:
Frances Cruz & Joaquin Castro and family
Dennis & Colleen Cruz and family
Jerome Cruz
Genoven & Jose Tyqueingco and family
Robin & Augustin Palacios and family
Jose & Winnie Arriola and family
Rosalina & Norman Santos and family
Consolation Tereyama and family

Brothers/Sisters/Spouses/In-laws:
Mercedes L. Aguon and family
Jesus & Maria C. Lizama and family
Pedro C. Lizama
Ignacia L. & Hideya Osada and family
Teresita L. Tyqueingco and family
Virginia L. Lizama and family
Candelaria Jose and family
Susana C. & Isidro T. Cabrera and family
Ben C. & Susan Lizama and family
Donicio & Pat Camacho and family
Family of †Manuel C. Lizama, †Benedicto C. Lizama, †Carmen L. Torres, †Maria L. Kaipat, †Trinidad Cepeda, †Rufina Duena, and †Henrique Cruz

Daily mass is being said at San Jose Church as scheduled:
Friday, September 29, 2017 at 6:00am
Saturday, September 30, 2017 at 6:00pm
Sunday, October 1, 2017 at 7:30am
Monday, October 2, 2017 at 6:00am (Mt. Carmel)
Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at 6:00am

On Wednesday, October 4, 2017, his remains will be escorted from CHCC Chapel to San Jose Church at 7:30am followed by viewing. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am. Interment Service will follow at San Jose Church. Lunch will be served at the Lizama residence in Oleai.

From the Family

Science & Technology

StoryCorps asks kids to record elders

NEW YORK (AP)—StoryCorps is hoping people give their social media apps a break for a few minutes this Thanksgiving and instead use one designed for listening.

The nonprofit oral history project on Thursday announced the 2017 edition of its Great Thanksgiving Listen, which calls for high school students to record a conversation with an elder over the holiday weekend using the StoryCorps app.

Students can also add photos and videos to their stories and upload them to an online StoryCorps archive. They'll also be included in a StoryCorps collection at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

Dave Isay, StoryCorps' founder and president, sees the event as a potential way "to strengthen our national fabric at a time when we desperately need it."

"Listening is a skill critical to young people now and in their future," Isay added in a statement.

AP

In this Nov. 27, 2015, file photo, Rhiannon Leonard interviews her boss, Gary Himes in Weverton, Md., for StoryCorps' Great Thanksgiving Listen oral history project. The Great Thanksgiving Listen will be held for a third year in 2017. The event calls for high school students to record a conversation with an elder over the holiday weekend using the StoryCorps app.

This is the third year for the Great Thanksgiving Listen. Before 2015, those participating in StoryCorps had to visit the project's mobile booth or its permanent booths located in New York, Chicago, Atlanta and San Francisco.

The app has been a boon to StoryCorps' archive of American voices. The project had amassed more than 50,000 recordings by the time the app was launched in March 2015. Since then, the app has added nearly 250,000 new stories to the archive, including 75,000 recorded during its Great Thanksgiving Listen events.

Q&A: How Apple's Face ID facial recognition works

In mid-September, Apple unveiled its new Face ID facial recognition system , which is due to debut with the iPhone X on Nov. 3. The system lets users unlock their phones just by glancing at them, but has also raised privacy questions and some anxieties over whether someone could force you to unlock your phone by pointing it at your face.

On Wednesday, Apple offered some in-depth explanations about the pains it's taking to protect your privacy in an update to its website.

Here›s what you need to know about how Face ID works and the precautions Apple has taken for privacy and security.

HOW DOES FACE ID WORK?

Face ID captures both a 3-D and 2-D image of your face using infrared light while you›re looking straight at the camera. Apple then compares that information to images you took while setting up Face ID; that comparison is done using a «neural network» that lives on the iPhone X›s new A11 chip.

Five unsuccessful attempts at Face ID will force you to enter a passcode—which you›ll need anyway just to set up facial recognition. That requires you to come up with a secure string of digits—or, for extra security, a string of letters and numbers—to protect your privacy.

DOES IT WORK?

It didn't during Apple's Sept. 12 event—at least initially, when senior vice president Craig Federighi tried and failed to demonstrate Face ID for the crowd before switching phones. Apple explained that handlers mistakenly set off Face ID attempts prior to Federighi's presentation, which caused the phone to revert to a passcode lock before he took the stage.

While Face ID won't face an acid test with ordinary users until November, Apple

IS APPLE GOING TO STORE MY FACE IN THE CLOUD?

Relax, Apple says. Your face isn't leaving your device.

The iPhone X will store representations of your face in its "secure enclave," a hardware-based enclosure designed to be resistant to spying and tampering. The phone-based neural net processing means the image representations never have to go anywhere.

The iPhone X allows does allow third-party apps to let you sign in via Face ID, but these outside developers only receive notifications from Apple that you've been authenticated or not. Other apps "can't access Face ID or the data associated with the enrolled face," the company said in its security white paper.

The only time your images can leave the phone is when you call Apple's support service, AppleCare. If you're having trouble with Face ID, you can select which images you want to send for diagnostics, the company said.

Closing a Yahoo Mail account isn't easy

Q: I have an old Yahoo email address that I want to cancel, but I can't figure out how to do it. What's the best way?

A: You can close your account, but Yahoo doesn't make it easy.

Before you can close the account, you must disable your "Yahoo Account Key," if you have one. (Account keys are an alternative to typing a password to login to a Yahoo account. When you try to access your account, a text message asking "Are you trying to sign in?" is sent to your smartphone. If you tap the message and an "approve" icon, you are logged-in.) To disable an account key, go to tinyurl.com/y7ngu6hc and click "manage devices or disable account key."

Once that's done, begin closing your account by logging in at tinyurl.com/y9ave23a. Then, in the name of security, Yahoo wants you to enter a special password that it sends to a separate email account that you listed when you signed up. It then asks you to change the password on the account that you want to close. (Avoid both tasks by clicking "I'll secure my account later.") Then Yahoo asks you to enter your mobile phone number or add another alternate email for the account you're closing (skip those tasks by clicking the "Looks good" button.)

You will then be given a list of features you will miss out on if you close your Yahoo account, such as fantasy sports access and Flickr online photo sharing. Click "continue." You must again type in your email address and click "Yes, terminate this account."

But wait, there's more! If you try to log in to your Yahoo account to make sure that it's closed, Yahoo will reactivate the account and you will have to go through the whole process again. To avoid that, wait at least 40 days before you try to make sure the account is defunct.

Q: I use the Thunderbird email program, and I would like it to stop marking some legitimate emails as junk mail. This routes the emails to the junk folder instead of the inbox. What can I do?

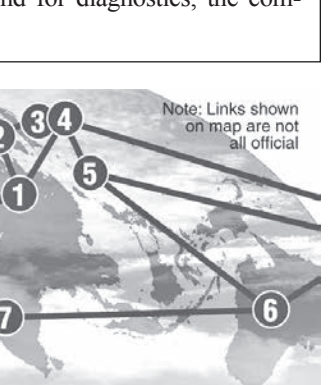
A: Mozilla Thunderbird, a program that can simultaneously manage email from several different accounts, tries to intercept much of the spam, or junk email, that people receive. But it sometimes makes mistakes.

Fortunately, there are two ways to fix the problem.

One method is to "train" the program to sort "good" vs. "junk" email the same way that you would. To do so, you click on legitimate emails _ some that you find in the junk folder and others that are in the inbox _ and label them as "not junk." You must also mark undesirable email as "junk." (See directions under "Training the junk filter" at tinyurl.com/ores4ds). Thunderbird will eventually learn your preferences, but it could take weeks.

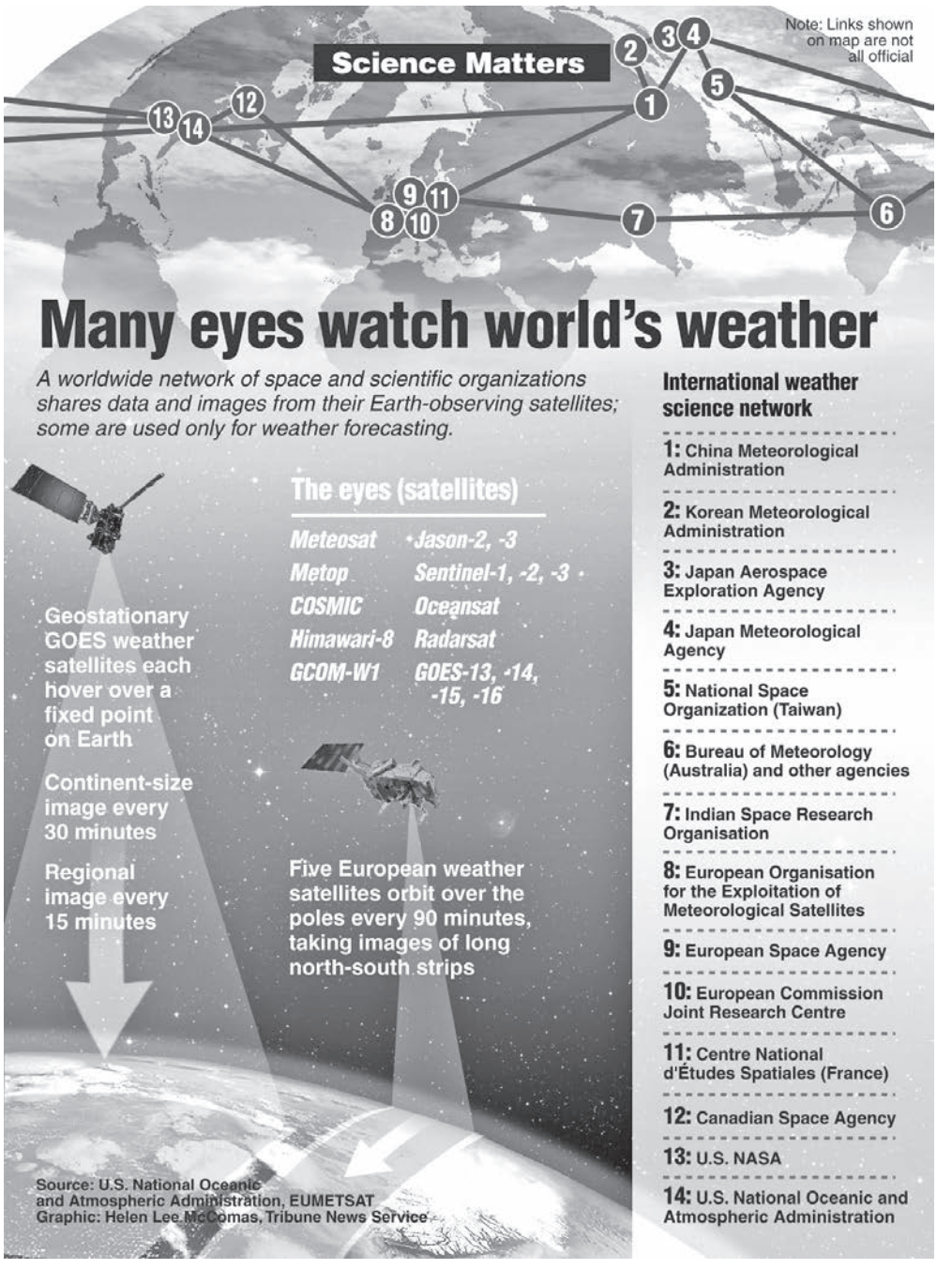
Alternatively, you can change Thunderbird's mail-sorting habits immediately by creating a "rule" that overrides the program's judgment about whether an email is legitimate or spam. Do that by creating a preferred list of email addresses. Every message from an address on the list will avoid being labeled as "junk," and will automatically be routed to the inbox.

To create the override setting (you must do it separately for each email account), see "Per account settings" at the same website.



By STEVE ALEXANDER
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune*. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*


Science Matters
Note: Links shown on map are not all official
Many eyes watch world's weather
A worldwide network of space and scientific organizations shares data and images from their Earth-observing satellites; some are used only for weather forecasting.
The eyes (satellites)
Meteosat
Jason-2, -3
Metop
Sentinel-1, -2, -3
COSMIC
Oceansat
Himawari-8
Radarsat
GCOM-W1
GOES-13, -14, -15, -16
Geostationary GOES weather satellites each hover over a fixed point on Earth
Continent-size image every 30 minutes
Regional image every 15 minutes
Five European weather satellites orbit over the poles every 90 minutes, taking images of long north-south strips
Source: U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, EUMETSAT
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service
International weather science network
1: China Meteorological Administration
2: Korean Meteorological Administration
3: Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency
4: Japan Meteorological Agency
5: National Space Organization (Taiwan)
6: Bureau of Meteorology (Australia) and other agencies
7: Indian Space Research Organisation
8: European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites
9: European Space Agency
10: European Commission Joint Research Centre
11: Centre National d'Études Spatiales (France)
12: Canadian Space Agency
13: U.S. NASA
14: U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Life & Style

SYP: Networking with a spin

The Saipan Young Professionals committee of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce held its 3rd quarter mixer last Thursday, Sept. 21, 2017, at the 360 Revolving Restaurant.

Guests were encouraged to bring a new and unwrapped toy to benefit the Toys 4 Tots campaign.

There were complimentary beverages donated by Saipan Brewing Co. as well as a spread of appetizers.

SYP co-chairs Zachariah Johnson (of the Public School System) and Beau Tomokane (Delta Air Lines) kicked off the event by sharing some insight on SYP's mission, goals, and ongoing projects.

Guests were challenged to meet two new people in order to grow their network.

A highlight of the event was recognizing two SYP members who were recently awarded grants by the Bank of Hawaii: Shayne Villanueva and Tanya Salas.

Villanueva thanked Nicole Babauta from the CNMI Small Business Development Center for sharing information with them.

"I want to…thank SYP for the motivation and support they have shown me. …I look forward to what SYP has in store for me and look forward to working with these amazing individuals" said Villanueva.

Salas added: "I'm glad that I have been consistent in attending our SYP meetings and trainings. I really learn a lot and if it weren't for attending, I would have never known about this grant."

The event also featured a raffle draw, with prizes donated by Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Franken Brau, KFC, Let's Go Tours, Roil Soil, Tribe Marianas, The Shack, Thrive Medi-Spa, SeaTouch, Shirley's Coffee Shop, and Swirls. ***(PR)***

Marriage recovers from affair, but wife can't forgive herself

DEAR ABBY: About 12 years ago, I made a terrible mistake and had an affair. My husband loved me enough to forgive me, and our marriage has been fine ever since.

The problem is, I can't forgive myself. I hate myself! I could have lost everything, including our two kids. I think of all the time I wasted when I could have shared that time with them, and I beat myself up daily over this.

I have been depressed for so long. How do I get over this? I'm on meds, but it's deeper than that. I feel I have a seat waiting in hell because of it. So—no chance for heaven—what's the point in trying to be happy?

I can't afford counseling, and I don't have a priest to talk to. Is there some kind of counseling group online I could join?

MISERABLE IN COLORADO

DEAR MISERABLE: It appears that, not satisfied with waiting for hell in the hereafter, you have managed to create one for yourself right here on Earth. As far as I know, there's no "Jezebels Anonymous" support group.

It would be appropriate to find a priest who could give you absolution. However, because there isn't one and it appears you're having a crisis of the soul, confide in a member of the clergy of another faith, if there's one nearby. Trust me, it won't be the first time he or she has heard a story like yours, and it may bring you comfort.

DEAR ABBY: I have a fear of "threes." My brother, whom I never met, died at 3 months because he had a hole in his heart. My dad died at 43, the day before his 44th birthday. My other brother also died at the age of 43. Mom died in the third month (March) when she was 63 years old, and that's just immediate family. Other family members and a couple of friends also had the number three connected to their untimely deaths.

Whenever the number three comes up, it drives me crazy. I just turned 40 and was miserable during my 30s, anticipating that I would be next. I'm sure I'll be fine for another two years, but knowing my dad and brother died at 43 will make me fearful for the whole year. Am I cursed?

NUMBERS PHOBIA

DEAR NUMBERS PHOBIA: You have experienced more loss in your life than the average person. For that I can only offer my sympathy. However, you are viewing this the wrong way. Three isn't YOUR unlucky number -- it was the unlucky number of the people who DIED. Because a particular fate befalls someone close does not guarantee the same misfortune will happen to you. Please, enjoy the life you are given to the fullest every day and stop diminishing your quality of life with morbid thoughts. It is your negative thinking that's the curse, and nothing more.

DEAR ABBY: What should I have told my heartbroken 6-year-old daughter when all the other girls (four) on our block were invited to a birthday party except her?

MINNESOTA MOM

DEAR MOM: If she were my daughter, I would have told her that we were going to do something special that day—just the two of us—and then I would have made it happen.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

DEAR ABBY

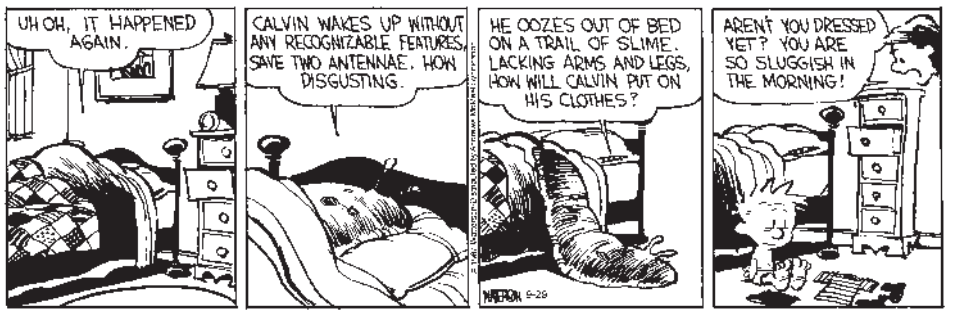
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


UH OH, IT HAPPENED AGAIN.
CALVIN WAKES UP WITHOUT ANY RECOGNIZABLE FEATURES, SAVE TWO ANTENNAE. HOW DISGUSTING.
HE OOZES OUT OF BED ON A TRAIL OF SLIME. LACKING ARMS AND LEGS, HOW WILL CALVIN PUT ON HIS CLOTHES?
AREN'T YOU DRESSED YET? YOU ARE SO SLUGGISH IN THE MORNING!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

I'M GOING TO A MOVIE.
I NEED TO GET OUT OF MY HEAD AND STOP SWEATING THIS BOOK IDEA FOR A BIT.
I'M GONNA EAT POPCORN AND RAISINETTES 'TIL I CAN'T STAND UP. THEN NACHOS.
SOUNDS LIKE QUITE A PLAN.
BRAIN FOOD, LAURA. RUMOR IS FITZGERALD WAS HOPPED UP ON TWIZZLERS WHEN HE WROTE "GATSBY."
9.29

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Sign after Virgo
6 NASCAR sponsor
9 Chaney of horror films
12 Heartless
13 Sock part
14 French article
15 Car sticker
16 Perfectly behaved
18 By word of mouth
20 Swampy goo
21 Zero
23 Weed whacker
24 Basilica areas
25 Prudish
27 Tabriz resident
29 More risque
31 Song's words
35 Top of a wave
37 Actress Falco
38 Walrus features
41 British ref. work
43 Deviate off course
44 Formerly
45 Write illegibly
47 Type of paint
49 NBA coach Pat
52 Payable
53 Mine material
54 Group of three
55 Sault — Marie
56 Apiece
57 Factions

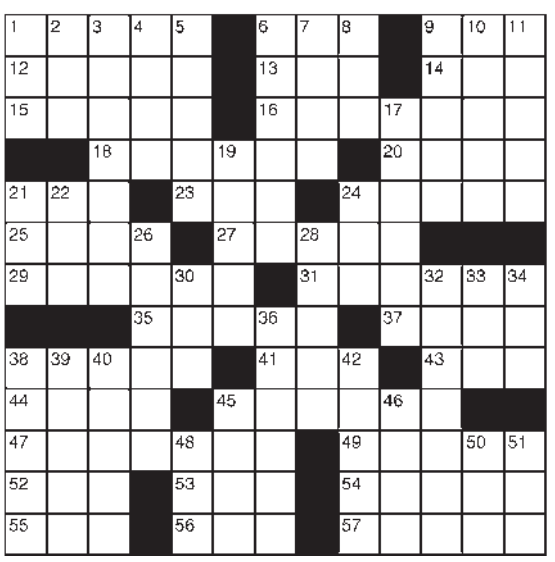
DOWN

1 PC screen type
2 Anger
3 Pastoral
4 Bring up
5 God, in Islam
6 Not as fresh
7 Theater award
8 Identify
9 Hum-dingers
10 In reserve
11 Guitar parts
17 Realm
19 France's longest river
21 "Fresh Air" airer
22 A Gershwin brother
24 Whatever
26 Disney mouse
28 Modify
30 Hosp. areas
32 Blissful
33 Spy org.
34 Stitch
36 Mia Hamm's sport
38 Pond hoppers
39 Full-length
40 Rocky debris
42 Pub projectiles
45 Beget
46 Telegram
48 Prune
50 "Dig in!"
51 QB's stats

Solution time: 25 mins.

S	I	A	H		G	E	I		A	D	A	M
W	A	V	E		R	A	E		M	O	N	O
A	T	O	P		E	R	R		O	N	T	O
B	E	W	A	R	E		M	A	R	T	I	N
			I	N	N			C	A	M		
A	H	O	U		I	R	U	L	L	O	V	E
N	E	V			E	O	N			V	A	T
O	V	E	R	C	A	M	E		B	E	_	A
		N	O	N			A	W	E			
C	F	M	A	N	D		R	F	N	O	I	R
A	M	I	D		A	P	T		G	I	B	E
Z	I	T	I		D	U	H		A	S	I	S
E	T	T	E		A	B	S		L	E	S	T

Yesterday's answer 9-29



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kevin Durant, 29; Roger Bart, 55; Bryant Gumbel, 69; Jerry Lee Lewis, 82.

Happy Birthday: Don't wait to be asked. Do what's expected of you before someone complains. Face opposition with a clear message that states what you will and will not do. Equality should be your goal, along with living up to the standards you set and the rules you agree to. Balance, integrity and honesty will be your ticket to a fruitful and peaceful year. Your numbers are 6, 11, 20, 27, 33, 36, 41.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Overreacting and making impulsive decisions will lead to loss. Slow down and rethink your strategy before you do something that you may regret. A moderate approach to whatever you face will spare you the conflict excessive behavior will create. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Speak up and share your ideas and solutions for any problems that crop up at work or school. Your ability to apply practical applications to matters that could easily spin out of control will make you look good. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Easy come, easy go. Your good fortune will be wasted if you are too generous with your time, money and information. Opportunity should be handled responsibly. Your reasons or someone else's motives may not be fitting. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Be careful how you handle your money. Don't lend, borrow or donate more than you can afford. Moderation will be your saving grace and leave you in a position to ward off stress and enjoy your life. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Refuse to let what others are doing interfere with what you have to accomplish. Taking responsibility will make a difference to the way you are viewed by your peers and your boss. Put more into your personal appearance. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Interacting and making comparisons with like-minded people will give you a new lease on life. A physical change or makeover will give you the confidence you need to speak your mind and go after what you want. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Changes at home will turn out better than anticipated. Do your part to keep things moving forward smoothly. Stay within budget and don't make a fuss if someone wants to do his or her own thing. Keep the peace.✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Business trips, interviews and picking up additional skills will lead to an unusual opportunity. Revealing what you have to offer and applying your skills to current economic trends is favored. Celebrate your accomplishments with someone you love. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Use your intelligence to get ahead. Promising the impossible will not make you look good. Don't deny what you can clearly see as truth. Accept the inevitable so that you can move forward without unnecessary emotional baggage. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Emotional spending or making a fuss over something will leave you feeling frustrated and uncertain. Set boundaries if someone keeps trying to take advantage of you by using manipulative tactics. Practicality and moderation will be necessary. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Don't make changes based on an unstable emotional situation. Let nature take its course, and when the dust has settled you will have a better idea of what to do next. Time is on your side, and patience is in your best interest. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Someone from your past will have a great suggestion that can help you get ahead professionally. Make sure you get all the details in writing to prevent losing out on a great deal. Romance should be a priority. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are industrious, caring and picky. You are unpredictable and diverse.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	7	4		2				
					4			5
		9				4		3
	9			4				
8				6				1
				3			8	
3		1				2		
6			8					
				7		5	3	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

9	8	7	5	2	1	4	3	6
3	4	2	6	8	9	5	7	1
1	6	5	3	4	7	9	8	2
6	9	3	1	7	5	2	4	8
5	7	8	4	6	2	1	9	3
4	2	1	9	3	8	6	5	7
7	5	6	8	1	4	3	2	9
2	1	4	7	9	3	8	6	5
8	3	9	2	5	6	7	1	4

Difficulty level ★★★ 9/28

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

APPLE PICKING Solution: 8 letters

Y	T	R	E	B	I	L	G	M	C	T	I	U	R	F
A	E	R	I	N	E	R	T	A	J	L	F	A	R	M
T	K	S	E	M	E	E	S	U	L	U	J	E	Ⓜ	C
E	C	A	O	E	K	D	B	I	J	A	S	Ⓐ	T	A
S	A	R	N	R	E	I	F	I	Z	H	Ⓙ	O	D	M
D	L	S	A	E	L	M	N	Z	T	O	Y	R	L	Y
N	B	M	S	E	U	E	E	I	N	N	E	E	O	E
U	S	N	E	T	P	M	M	A	O	E	L	T	G	S
O	A	R	S	I	P	S	T	S	H	Y	L	T	A	R
R	S	U	R	I	Y	H	M	M	A	C	O	U	N	E
E	N	B	R	N	A	I	S	O	U	R	W	B	O	J
G	A	E	N	N	R	C	O	O	K	I	N	G	J	U
N	K	A	E	C	N	A	D	N	U	S	L	O	D	I
I	R	R	Y	D	A	L	K	N	I	P	I	E	S	C
G	A	B	A	S	K	E	T	S	E	V	R	A	H	E

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Akane, Arkansas Black, Basket, Braeburn, Butter, Cooking, Crimson, Empire, Farm, Fill, Fresh, Fruit, Fuji, Gala, Ginger, Granny Smith, Green, Harvest, Honeycrisp, Jam, Jazz, Jersey Mac, Jonagold, Jonathan, Jubilee, Juice, Liberty, Lodi, Macoun, Market, Melrose, Mutsu, Pies, Pink Lady, Ripen, Rome, Round, Seeds, Sour, Sundance, Tree, Yates, Yellow

Yesterday's Answer: Deceive

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WHATZIT Solution: A Man for All Seasons

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(01) ASSISTANT ACCOUNTING MANAGER

Job Purpose:
Maximizes return on financial assets by establishing financial policies, procedures, controls, and reporting systems.

Duties:
- Guides financial decisions by establishing, monitoring, and enforcing policies and procedures.
- Protects assets by establishing, monitoring, and enforcing internal controls.
- Monitors and confirms financial condition by conducting audits; providing information to external auditors.
- Prepares budgets by establishing schedules; collecting, analyzing, and consolidating financial data; recommending plans.
- Achieves budget objectives by scheduling expenditures; analyzing variances; initiating corrective actions.
- Provides status of financial condition by collecting, interpreting, and reporting financial data.
- Prepares special reports by collecting, analyzing, and summarizing information and trends.
- Complies with federal, state, and local legal requirements by studying existing and new legislation; anticipating future legislation; enforcing adherence to requirements; filing financial reports; advising management on needed actions.
- Completes operational requirements by scheduling and assigning employees; following up on work results.
- Maintains financial staff by recruiting, selecting, orienting, and training employees.
- Maintains professional and technical knowledge by attending educational workshops; reviewing professional publications; establishing personal networks; participating in professional societies.
- Protects operations by keeping financial information and plans confidential.
- Prepare income taxes for all entities.
- Prepares monthly financial statements.
- Reviews work of the accounting staff.
- Contributes to team effort by accomplishing related results as needed.

Skills/Qualifications:
- Managing Processes, Financial Software, Developing Standards, Audit, Accounting, Corporate Finance, Tracking Budget Expenses, Financial Skills, Analyzing Information , Developing Budgets, Performance Management.
- Strong analytical and communication skills.
- Knowledge of financial reporting systems preferably Quickbooks.
- Knowledge of Excel.

Employer Preference: Must have own transportation to and from the workplace. US citizen or green card holder preferred. Looking to hire immediately.

Interested applicants must submit resume to our Bridge Capital office on Micro Beach Rd., Garapan, Saipan or email to Tania Mesa, HR Manager at: tania.mesa@bccnmi.com. Deadline to submit application will be on Friday, September 29, 2017 at 4:00 pm.

ACHUGAO SERVICES, LLC
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(01) Bookkeeper

Duties:
- Update and maintain accounts payable and receivables.
- Prepare bank deposits, verify and balance receipts, handle payroll, prepare invoices and keep track of overdue accounts.
- Monitor loans and payments, balance and reconcile billing vouchers, and enter code transactions according to company accounting procedures.
- Maintain general ledger and subsidiary accounts by verifying, allocating, and posting transactions.
- Balance subsidiary accounts by reconciling entries.
- Balance general ledger by preparing a trial balance; reconciling entries.
- Maintain historical records by filing documents and scanning documents to server.
- Prepare financial reports by collecting, analyzing, and summarizing account information and trends.
- Comply with federal, state, and local legal requirements by studying requirements; enforcing adherence to requirements; filing reports; advising management on needed actions.

Skills/Qualifications:
- Employer Preference: Knowledge in Excel, MC Word, Power Point programs. Must have a minimum of two (2) years work experience in accounting. Must have thorough knowledge of QuickBooks Accounting System. Must work with minimal or no supervision. Must have own transportation to and from the workplace. US citizen or green card holder preferred. Looking to hire immediately.

Interested applicants must submit resume to our Bridge Capital office on Micro Beach Rd., Garapan, Saipan or email to Tania Mesa, HR Manager at: tania.mesa@bccnmi.com. Deadline to submit application will be on Friday, September 29, 2017 at 4:00 pm.

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Cubs beat Cardinals to clinch NL Central

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The last time the Cubs went to the postseason three straight years was in 1906-08. The World Series champions won the National Central for the second straight year with a 5-1 victory over the St. Louis Cardinals on Wednesday night.

Under .500 and trailing Milwaukee in the division race at the All-Star break, the Cubs turned things around with a stellar second half.

"It was tough," starter John Lackey said. "It's always a challenge and we got a lot of people's best shots. We played well and we're back in the playoffs and we'll see what happens."

Addison Russell hit a three-run homer and Lackey pitched six strong innings for Chicago.

The Cubs are the first defending World Series champion to win their division the next season since the 2009 Philadelphia Phillies and the first defending champion to reach the playoffs the next season since the Cardinals won the wild card in 2012.

"It's fun to be a team that people want to beat," Cubs infielder Kris Bryant said. "We embrace that and we're going to go with that for as long as we can. It feels good right now knowing they (the Cardinals) always beat up on us before and now we're able to kind of get of a taste of that, too."

The Cubs became the second visiting team to celebrate a title at Busch Stadium III. The 2009 Los Angeles Dodgers won the NLDS at St. Louis.

"It's a blessing to be in a situation to win a World Series on a team and win a division in a tough division the very next year," Cubs outfielder Jason Heyward said. "That's not my plan. That's someone else's plan there. It just happened to be here. Fans, rivalry, whatever, it is what it is, but I know we had a lot of fun competing."

Lackey (12-11) retired the final 10 batters he faced. The former Cardinal and three-time World Series winner struck out three and gave up two hits and two walks.

"I've got to keep telling these kids (young Cubs players) `Don't take anyone of these for granted. You never know if it's your last one," Lackey said. "If you start thinking this is something easy, it's time for you to go home."

Six Cubs relievers combined for three scoreless innings.

Cardinals starter Michael Wacha needed just 60 pitches to cruise through the first six innings, striking out eight, before running into trouble in the seventh. Anthony Rizzo and Bryant started the inning with singles and Russell drove a 2-1 pitch over the left field wall to give the Cubs a 3-1 lead.

AP
Chicago Cubs center fielder Jon Jay catches a fly ball by St. Louis Cardinals' Paul DeJong to end the fourth inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2017, in St. Louis.

Indians 4, Twins 2

In Cleveland, from worst to wild card, the Minnesota Twins have completed a most remarkable reversal.

A couple hours after losing 4-2 to Cleveland, the Twins earned an AL wild-card berth the Angels lost 6-4 in 10 innings to White Sox.

A season after winning just 59 games, the Twins became the first team to lose at least 100 and then make the postseason the following year.

Manager Paul Molitor's team will play Tuesday night at either Yankee Stadium or Fenway Park in the wild-card game. Boston holds a three-game lead over New York in the AL East race.

White Sox 6, Angels 4, 10 innings

In Chicago, Nicky Delmonico hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the 10th inning to lift Chicago and eliminate the Angels from playoff contention.

Delmonico, who had three hits and three RBI, connected off Blake Parker (3-3).

Danny Farquhar (4-2) got the win.

Rockies 15, Marlins 9

In Denver, Ian Desmond homered during a six-run second inning and playoff-chasing Colorado won hours after Major League Baseball approved the sale of the Marlins to an investment group featuring Derek Jeter.

Charlie Blackmon reached 100 RBI for the Rockies, who with three games left are in prime position to contend for their first postseason berth since 2009. They are 2 1/2 games ahead of Milwaukee for the second NL wild-card spot.

Reds 6, Brewers 0

In Milwaukee, Brewers rookie Brandon Woodruff was chased in a five-run third inning and Milwaukee's postseason hopes took another hit.

The Brewers have lost five of seven. They've dropped 2 + games behind Colorado for the second NL wild-card spot with only four games left.

Joey Votto hit his team-high 36th home run and Homer Bailey (6-9) threw seven strong innings for the Reds. Woodruff (2-3) made his major league debut last month.

Red Sox 10, Blue Jays 7

In Boston, reigning AL Cy Young winner Rick Porcello struggled in his final playoff tuneup, and David Price relieved him to solidify his role on the postseason roster as Boston lowered its magic number to two for winning the AL East.

Hanley Ramirez and Xander Bogaerts homered in a five-run third inning for the Red Sox after Porcello (11-17) gave up three runs in the first.

Boston, which is already guaranteed a playoff berth, maintained a three-game lead in the division over the second-place Yankees.

Yankees 6, Rays 1

In New York, Luis Severino cruised through his final postseason tuneup and Starlin Castro, Greg Bird and Aaron Hicks all homered in the sixth inning for New York.

The Yankees remained three behind AL East-leading Boston with four to play.

Severino (14-6) struck out nine and allowed a run in six innings. He is lined up to start New York's playoff opener. The Yankees would host the AL wild-card game Tuesday against Minnesota if they don't win the division.

Dodgers 10, Padres 0

In Los Angeles, Rich Hill allowed two hits over seven innings and Yasiel Puig, Curtis Granderson and Corey Seager homered to power Los Angeles.

The Dodgers own the best record in baseball and tied the Los Angeles franchise record for wins in a season at 102, which was last done in 1974.

Hill (12-8) struck out 10. The Dodgers will host the first game of the NLDS against the to-be-determined wild-card winner on Oct. 6 at Dodger Stadium.

Astros 12, Rangers 2

In Arlington, Justin Verlander struck out 11 to win his fifth straight start since getting traded to Houston, major league batting leader Jose Altuve reached 200 hits for the fourth season in a row, and the AL West champion Astros completed a dominating three-game sweep.

Carlos Correa hit two home runs and George Springer had a grand slam as Houston outscored Texas 37-7 in the series. The Rangers lost their sixth straight game.

Verlander (15-8) matched his season high for strikeouts while allowing two runs without a walk in six innings. He is 5-0 with a 1.06 ERA in his five starts since being traded from Detroit to Houston on Aug. 31.

Altuve, who is hitting .347, got his 200th hit on a single in the first off Nick Martinez (3-8).

Diamondbacks 4, Giants 3

In Phoenix, J.D. Martinez hit his 16th homer in September during a three-run rally in the ninth inning that lifted Arizona over San Francisco.

Martinez tied Ralph Kiner's 1949 NL record for home runs in September. The major league record is 17, shared by Babe Ruth and Albert Belle.

Martinez has 45 homers this season, 29 of them since being traded from Detroit to the Diamondbacks on July 18. His 36 RBI in a month set an Arizona record, topping Luis Gonzalez's 35 in June 2001.

David Peralta drew a bases-loaded walk to cap the comeback in the ninth. The next time Arizona plays at Chase Field will be next Wednesday in the NL wild-card game.

Phillies 7, Nationals 5

In Philadelphia, Aaron Altherr had two hits and drove in two runs to lead Philadelphia over Washington.

Nationals starter Tanner Roark (13-11) struggled with command, walking five hitters and allowing six earned runs and seven hits in 4 1/3 innings.

Bryce Harper was 1 for 4 with a single and a run scored in his second game since returning from a hyperextended left knee.

Rookie Yacksel Rios (1-0) got his first career victory. Hector Neris worked a perfect ninth for his 20th consecutive save conversion and 26th in 29 opportunities overall.

Mets 7, Braves 1

In New York, Terry Collins was a winner in perhaps his final home game as manager of the New York Mets.

Travis d'Arnaud drove in three runs and pinch-hitter Dominic Smith launched a three-run homer for the Mets, who won their third straight and finished 37-44 at Citi Field this year. They wrap up the season with three games in Philadelphia this weekend.

The 68-year-old Collins, oldest manager in the majors, has said he has no plans to retire and would like to keep working until age 70 -- even if that means somewhere else in baseball. His contract expires after this season, and the Mets (69-90) are expected to make changes following a hugely disappointing season derailed by injuries and underperformance.

Robert Gsellman (8-7) capped his inconsistent season by throwing six steady innings. Sean Newcomb (4-9) took the loss.

Royals 7, Tigers 4

In Kansas City, Paulo Orlando hit a two-run homer and Kansas City sent Detroit to its ninth straight loss.

The Tigers are 4-22 in September and have been outscored 68-30 in the skid. The last time Detroit lost nine in a row was 2005.

Orlando's home run was his first since Sept. 19, 2016, going 117 at-bats between long balls.

Scott Alexander (5-4) went 1 1/3 scoreless innings and Mike Minor got his fourth save. Drew VerHagen (0-3) gave up the home run to Orlando,

Athletics 6, Mariners 5

In Oakland, Mark Canha hit a solo home run with one out in the bottom of the ninth inning that sent Oakland over Seattle.

Canha's fifth homer this season came against Shae Simmons (0-1).

The A's avoided a three-game sweep and snapped an eight-game losing streak against the Mariners. Matt Joyce tied an Oakland record with three doubles.

Blake Treinen (3-4) pitched a scoreless ninth.

Pirates 5, Orioles 3

In Pittsburgh, Josh Bell hit a two-run homer and Pittsburgh beat Baltimore.

Bell's 25th home run came off Gabriel Ynoa (2-3).

Chad Kuhl (8-11) went five-plus innings and Felipe Rivero pitched the ninth for his 20th save in 22 chances.

Wade wants to wear Heat jersey again, someday

MIAMI (AP)—Dwyane Wade cannot be clearer about this: He wants to wear a Miami Heat uniform again.

Someday.

After signing his one-year, $2.3 million deal with the Cleveland Cavaliers, Wade -- speaking from his new locker room—told The Associated Press that Miami is "always in my heart" and that he took a serious look at whether this was the right time to return to the franchise where he spent his first 13 NBA seasons.

"Miami, the door's always unlocked," Wade told AP. "One day I want to retire in a Miami Heat jersey. I don't know how that will happen, but I definitely want to make sure than when I decide to hang it up, that jersey is on. Whether it's being back there or signing a one-day deal like Paul Pierce, I want to make sure that I go out the way I came in."

The Heat have also indicated they would like a reunion many times -- such as when they took out a full-page newspaper ad saying "We'll leave a key under the mat for you" when he left Miami for Chicago last year and earlier this week, when Miami coach Erik Spoelstra talked about "our hopes for where he ends up eventually."

"Everybody knows how we all feel about him," Spoelstra said.

The feeling is mutual.

Wade is from Chicago and now will live in Cleveland, but Miami is home. His children are back in South Florida schools after joining him in Chicago last year, and Wade said he got the blessing from his oldest son to pursue the Cleveland opportunity.

AP

After signing his one-year, $2.3 million deal with the Cleveland Cavaliers, Wade told The Associated Press that Miami is "always in my heart."

"When it comes down to big decisions like this, there's two people I listen to: Her name is Gabrielle Union Wade and his name is Zaire Wade," Dwyane Wade said, referring to his wife and oldest son. "I listen to Zaire and my wife and try to see what they feel and what they want. Zaire told me just like this: `Dad, I would love to have you here and be around more. But I want you to go get your fourth ring."

With that, it became an easy choice.

Some Heat fans lobbied Wade on Twitter to come back to Miami after he got his buyout from the Bulls this week, and former teammates like Udonis Haslem, Hassan Whiteside and Goran Dragic also said they wanted him back.

Wade said it was flattering.

"To be in this position, to be in this league so long and to have fans wanting you to be part of their team — I mean, we all want to be wanted -- I can't even explain what that means," Wade said. "I really looked at their team and where could I fit in and what could my role be and would I be happy with that role."

Miami has plenty of shooting guards: Dion Waiters is the presumed starter, and Josh Richardson, Tyler Johnson, Rodney McGruder and Wayne Ellington all will see time at that spot for the Heat.

Wade looked at Miami's depth at that position and realized the fit wouldn't be ideal. Plus, the Heat were able to bring back most everyone from a team that went 30-11 in the second half of last season and Wade thought he could get in the way.

"Honestly, I didn't feel they needed me there," Wade said. "I feel that those guys are in a good place. They deserve to come back this year and see what that 30-11 was about. They don't need me there over their shoulder or anything like that. That's kind of how I approached it."

There is a bit of irony in how the schedule works out.

When he was with the Bulls last season, Chicago played at Miami only once—one of the schedule quirks that has some Eastern Conference teams playing each other three times instead of the more-customary four. The same thing happens this season in the Heat-Cavaliers series, with Cleveland coming to Miami one time only.

"Last year, honestly, I could only take coming back that once," Wade said. "It worked out for the better last year. It was the weirdest game I ever played in my life."

Marshall: NFL teams can show support by hiring Kaepernick

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)—Denver Broncos linebacker Brandon Marshall says he appreciates NFL teams supporting the rights of their players to protest during the national anthem. He also suggests they show it by giving Colin Kaepernick a job .

"The dude, he's in shape, he's yoked, actually," said Marshall, who saw his ex-college teammate on a TMZ video recently. "He's so strong. He's ready to go. He told me he's been working out when I last talked to him. He said he's just waiting for a call. That's the next step."

Marshall is among many players who believe Kaepernick is being blackballed by NFL teams over the movement he started last year when he declined to stand for the "Star Spangled Banner" during the 2016 preseason to bring attention to racial inequality in America.

Kaepernick remains unsigned six months after opting out of his contract with the San Francisco 49ers and becoming a free agent.

"There's a lot of (poor) quarterback play around the league," Marshall said. "I'm not saying the Bears should sign him, but you know the player Mike Glennon is. You can't tell me he's better than Colin Kaepernick, and he's a starter right now."

Marshall, who attended the University of Nevada with Kaepernick, was one of the first NFL players to join Kaepernick in the national anthem protests last season. At times, Marshall was joined by a teammate or two, but for the most part he spent half the season as the sole protester on the Denver sideline.

He lost endorsements and fans over the protests. but also received kudos from general manager John Elway—who's no fan of the kneel-downs—for backing up his actions with charity and community work.

Marshall ended his protests last year after Denver police agreed to change their use-of-force policy.

Marshall didn't plan on kneeling this season, but he began reconsidering following the president's response to the racially charged conflicts in Charlottesville, Virginia.

He stood apart from his teammates during the first two weeks of the season but didn't take a knee until Sunday.

Marshall was among 200-plus players across the league who knelt, sat, stretched or prayer during the "Star Spangled Banner" in response to the president's call for team owners to fire players who disrespect flag and country by refusing to stand for the national anthem.

He was one of 32 Broncos who took a knee in Buffalo.

"Last year I did it all by myself for eight games, but it's a lot different to have your brothers backing you," Marshall said. "I think whenever we decide to come together and do something, there's strength in numbers, they say, right? So, I definitely think that makes us stronger."

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Germance shows versatility in Belau softball

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Taylor Germance has shown his versatility in the 2017 Belau Masters Men's Softball League after figuring prominently in the batting category of the weekend competition.

The Karui slugger is currently fifth in the batting leaderboard with a .625 percentage or having 30 hits in 48 times at bat. He is also the home run king, hitting his 15th round-tripper in Karui's 21-10 thrashing of Peleliu last week. The Papa Bears' Jojo Attao, the current batting leader with .784, is second behind Germance in the homer and RBI categories with 13 and 34 each. Germance leads the league in RBIs with 47 and is tied with Joe Lizama of Brotherhood in the most runs scored with 30 apiece. Steve Igisaiar of Karui had 33 RBIs, while Payton Sakuma made 31 along with 11 homers.

Bill Camacho placed second in batting (.725) and runs scored behind Germance and Lizama with 28, and in triples with five following Nizer Masayos' seven. Dominic Hideo, James Fleming, Kalle Igisomar, and Tosh Beltran had four triples each, while Shiro leads the league with the most doubles, followed by Phil Celis and Tito Laniyo with seven each.

Darwin Masaharu of Karui (fourth, .647); the Brotherhood's Jack D. Diaz (sixth, .622) and Jerry Ayuyu (seventh, .606); Jude Dickinson of the S.A. Masters (eighth, .594); Igisaiar (ninth, .592); and Peleliu's Hideo (10th, .587) rounded up the batting leaders.

Momma Charu's Leo Bobai topped the pitching department with a 5.86 ERA and holds a 10-3 record in the 74 innings he pitched, followed by the Papa Bears' Joseph Celis (5.94), the Brotherhood's Diaz (6.51), and Peleliu teammates Rush Kintaro (7.45) and Ray Villagomez (7.56).

John Cepeda (S.A. Masters, 7.78), John Terlaje (Brotherhood, 9.16), Karui's Lucian George and Sufa's Tom Camacho with similar 9.19 ERA, and Igisaiar (9.64) also made the pitching leaders list.

Bobai is also ahead in strikeouts with 25 and was closely followed by the 24 of Leo Iskawa and 23 of Tom Camacho.

Mickelson leads US for 23rd straight time in team event

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP)— Phil Mickelson is the voice of experience in team competition, and there's no comparison.

He was on the putting green Wednesday morning at the Presidents Cup, explaining to some of the six rookies on the American team why the teams might change for the final day of practice, the schedule after the team photo, just about anything short of how to tie their shoes.

Mickelson has played in the Presidents Cup every year since it began in 1994. He has played in every Ryder Cup since 1995. Add them up and this will be his 23rd consecutive time playing in a team event.

For someone like PGA champion Justin Thomas, playing in his first one, that can be hard to fathom.

"I can't, especially because I was 1 when he playing in his first one, which is really crazy to think," Thomas said. "I would love to see what kind of person he was then. I'm sure he was still the same kind of guy. But it's crazy. To be that good for that long and to have the reputation that he does, being that much of a leader, a role model in the team rooms ... I don't know if it will ever be topped."

Playing on so many Presidents Cup teams has mainly been a happy occasion. The Americans have lost only one of them, in 1998 at Royal Melbourne, and tied the International team in 2003 in South Africa.

The International team, with Nick Price as captain for a third straight time, gets another chance to end a losing streak that is getting out of hand.

AP

Phil Mickelson watches his tee shot on the fourth hole during the first round of the BMW Championship golf tournament at Conway Farms Golf Club, Thursday, Sept. 14, 2017, in Lake Forest, Ill.

We've got a lot of power," Price said. "I've always said this —18-hole match play is anybody's game."

It's been in the American game in this format, and Mickelson always figures into the equation.

That ultimately might be one of his greatest legacies when the Presidents Cup begins on Thursday, and Mickelson heads to the first tee with Kevin Kisner in a foursomes match against Jason Day and Marc Leishman.

It will his 52nd match in the Presidents Cup, and 97th match overall in either cup.

His 42 victories on the PGA Tour put him at No. 9 on the career list, three behind Walter Hagen. He has five majors, including three legs of the career Grand Slam. He has earned just over $83 million, second only to Tiger Woods. He already is in the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Most unusual about his career is what he hasn't done.

Mickelson has never been No. 1 in the world. He was never won the PGA Tour money title. He has never been voted the PGA Tour player of the year.

BROTHERHOOD

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5 and combined for 12 runs. Camacho also homered, had five RBIs, and two doubles, while Igisomar made a pair of doubles and triples aside from four RBIs, and Tomokane posted two doubles and two RBIs. John Diaz finished 3-for-4 with three runs, a double, and two RBIs; Tom Diaz went 3-for-5 aside from scoring thrice with a double, a triple, and two RBIs; and Joe Lizama went 3-for-6 with a double and two RBIs.

Karui 21, Peleliu 10

Taylor Germance scored two runs, including a grand slam in the fifth inning, behind a 2-for-4 batting in a shortened match.

Karui improved to 9-5, while Peleliu, which previously tied Brotherhood on top of the standings, dropped to 12-2.

Germance also had four RBIs, while Darwin Masaharu went 3-for-4, all singles, with two runs and one RBI.

Momma Charu 20, Asahi 10

Payton Sakuma homered twice, including a grand slam, driving in seven runs to lead Momma Charu to its 10th win in 14 games, while handling Asahi its ninth loss against four wins.

Sakuma went 2-for-2, scoring four runs, while Nizer Masayos was 2-for-4, with three runs, two doubles, and an RBI. Tito Laniyo hit 3-for-5, made two runs, and had a double, and an RBI. Leo Bobai, who was 3-for-4, reached home plate three times and gave up 13 hits in a no relief effort on the mound.

Papa Bears 18, Sufa 17

Batting leader Jojo Attao homered three times and added a single in his five times at bat. He also had six RBIs.

Ben Palacios went perfect at the plate, 4-for-4, with two runs, a double, and an RBI, while Rodney Camacho also homered, going 3-for-5 with one run and two RBIs.

LOPSIDED

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Matansa was paired against Paire and notched a 9-2 win. Jin Xin Wen stood out for Matansa after scoring five goals, while Philip Megino and Chanyang Woo contributed two apiece. Wen made four of his goals in the second half, which started with Matansa ahead by only to, 3-1. Wen, which got his first goal in the 13th minute, had back-to-back in the 45th and 47th and did it again in the 53rd and 55th.

As for Paire's side, Dylan Mister gave his team its first goal in the 25th minute, while the second game from Max Church in the 57th.

In other results, MP United hammered Kanoa-2, 15-4.

Andrew Chung sizzled for six goals to outgun the entire Kanoa-2 crew. Chung scored in the sixth, 13th, 21st, 34th, 46th, and 52nd minute. Garett Weaver also showed up in MP United's demolition of Kanoa-2 after making three goals, while Evan Mendiola and Kristopher Pascual chipped in two each. Richard Castro and Leo Takahashi were the other scorers for MP United two.

Edison Jay Viana had two goals for Kanoa-2, which got one each from Minsoo Kwon and Joshua Park.

Kanoa-2's sister team Kanoa-1 doubled up TanHoldings for an 8-4 victory.

Markus Toves and Daniel Mar Pablo knocked in two goals apiece for Kanoa-1, while Devin Propst, Ruben Guerrero, Paulo Jerome Quidato, and Andrew Sablan added one each. Mark Joseph Roque made two goals for TanHoldings, while Angelo Pulido and Anthony John Bergancia registered one apiece.

Meanwhile, in the boys U14 division, MP United whipped Shirley's FC at the Koblerville Elementary School Field, 9-1.

Rintaro Miyawaki and Richard Steele teamed up in lifting MP United to another lopsided win. Miyawaki and Steele each scored three goals, while Jerick Quimzon, Dylan Kim, and Rohan Basnet chipped in one each. Shirley's got its lone goal from Rommel Mendoza.

In other results in the division, Kanoa duplicated MP United's easy win after getting the victories via forfeiture over Paire, while Matansa edged TanHoldings, 2-1.

Lolobeyong Benito drilled the pair of goals for Matansa with his go-ahead coming in the 23rd minute. His first goal was registered in the 16th minute, while TanHoldings equalized three minutes later off Allen Joshua Morilla's shot.

SPORTS

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people from Guam, Australia, Japan, South Korea, Chinese Taipei, the Philippines, Mexico, Austria, Russia, China, New Zealand, Great Britain, France, Switzerland, and Slovakia. In these tournaments, athletes usually bring either their families or friends with them when competing.

Besides the regular competitions it hosts or sponsors, MVA could also look into athletes joining the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Athletes, especially those from countries with winter or cold weather, could use Saipan as a training venue to acclimatize themselves in time for the 32nd edition of the Summer Games.

With this possibility and other opportunities to host off-island teams, Torres, in a similar interview, wanted to prioritize improving Saipan's sports facilities not only to serve visiting athletes, but also those who will join the 2021 Pacific Mini Games.

"We do have the infrastructure, but I would like to see better facilities here. I'm going to look at other priorities as we prepare to host the (Mini) Games in 2021," said Torres in the same interview with reporters last Tuesday.

The Governor's Office has already received the money provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the repair and renovation of the facilities at the Oleai Sports Complex damaged by Typhoon Soudelor. The FEMA Public Assistance Office is handling the renovation project with the assistance from Governor's Office special assistant on project development Vicky Benavente.

"The FEMA money is already with the Governor's Office. [Benavente] is the right person to talk to regarding the project. We're going to look at all the FEMA dollars and the projects that have been approved so we can show to you where we are at each project," said Torres.

He also added that the CNMI could even partner with Korea's sports associations, which could provide assistance either through monetary donation or sports equipment.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Boston	92	66	.582	—
z-New York	89	69	.563	3
Tampa Bay	76	82	.481	16
Toronto	75	84	.472	17½
Baltimore	75	84	.472	17½

Central Division

x-Cleveland	99	59	.627	—
z-Minnesota	83	75	.525	16
Kansas City	78	80	.494	21
Chicago	65	93	.411	34
Detroit	62	96	.392	37

West Division

x-Houston	98	60	.620	—
Los Angeles	78	80	.494	20
Seattle	77	82	.484	21½
Texas	76	82	.481	22
Oakland	73	85	.462	25

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

x-Washington	95	63	.601	—
Miami	74	84	.468	21
Atlanta	71	87	.449	24
New York	69	90	.434	26½
Philadelphia	64	95	.403	31½

Central Division

x-Chicago	89	69	.563	—
Milwaukee	83	75	.525	6
St. Louis	82	76	.519	7
Pittsburgh	73	85	.462	16
Cincinnati	67	91	.424	22

West Division

x-Los Angeles	101	57	.639	—
y-Arizona	92	67	.579	9½
Colorado	86	73	.541	15½
San Diego	70	89	.440	31½
San Francisco	62	97	.390	39½

z-clinched playoff berth
x-clinched division

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paire gains share of lead; Kanoa-1 prevails

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Paire Football Club outclassed the U16 Developmental Team, 8-2, during their Division A game in the 2017 Dove Women's Fall Futsal League last Wednesday at the TSL Sports Complex.

The victory was the second in as many games for Paire, putting the squad in a tie for first place with idle Kanoa Football Club-2.

As expected, Guine Borja starred in Paire's second straight triumph as she scored three goals. Borja earlier fired six goals in their season-debut win over Kanoa-1, 9-3. Borja got enough support from her teammates with Jeraldine Castillo and Lyka Sally chipping in two goals each, and Jerlyn Castillo contributing one. Therize Millare posted the pair of goals for the U16 Developmental Team, which fell to a 0-0-2 win-draw-loss record.

In other results in Division A, Kanoa-1 recovered from its opening week loss with a 6-2 victory over Shirley's Football Club (0-0-3) last Monday.

Jeralyn Castillo powered Kanoa-1 to the easy win as she registered five goals, more than doubling their opponent's total. Jeralyn scored her first in the sixth minute and the last four in the 28th, 32nd, 38th, and 39th. Paulyn Joyce posted the other goal for Kanoa-1, finding the back of the net in the eight minute.

Mia Carreon and De Jana Muna tallied the two goals for Shirley's with the former lighting up the board in the second minute and the latter following suit two minutes later.

In Division B, Paire slipped past the then unbeaten Shirley's last Wednesday, 1-0. Miles River scored the lone goal in the match in the 38th minute to hand Shirley's its first loss in three games.

The close win over Shirley's allowed Paire to recover from a 1-2 defeat at the hands of MyPros last Monday. MyPros broke into the win column, thanks to Natalie Hill's go-ahead goal in the 16th minute. Four minutes earlier, Samantha Babauta put MyPros on the board and equalized the match. Before Babauta's game-tying goal, River found her target in the second minute to give Paire the shaky lead.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A U16 Developmental Team player dribbles ahead of her Kanoa Football Club-2 defender during the opening week of the 2017 Dove Women's Fall Futsal League at the TSL Sports Complex.

SBL eyes weekend games for Masters, U25 divisions

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Saipan Baseball League director Tony Rogolifoi is calling all coaches of competing teams in the Under-25 and Masters divisions to attend tomorrow's meeting at 9am at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rogolifoi said the meeting would chiefly discuss the schedule of the games in the ongoing league after they had already encountered problems due to the island's unpredictable weather. He said they needed to have additional games in both divisions every Saturday with the youth taking the field at 10am and the veterans playing at 6:30.

"We have no choice but to squeeze in extra games every Saturday in order for us to finish the season before the year ends," said Rogolifoi.

The U25 league had already canceled four matches because of afternoon rains, while two games were discontinued also for the same reasons.

Rained-out matches were on Aug. 29, Blue Jays against Pirates (first round); Sept. 14, Pirates versus Tanapag Falcons; Sept. 21, GSM Cubs against Pirates; and today Sept. 28, Pirates against Blue Jays (second round).

The Aug. 31 first round meeting between the Cubs and the Falcons was discontinued due to rain with the Tanapag-based team leading 4-0 after two complete innings. Rain again halted their second round match last Tuesday, Sept. 26, and this time the Cubs were holding on to 3-0 lead when play was stopped in the fourth.

The Masters league, meanwhile, had six rained out games—Aug. 28 and 30, and Sept. 8, 13, 22, and, 25 while one was rescheduled with no available umpire to officiate the match on Sept. 15.

According to the U25's original schedule, the finals would start on Dec. 14, while the title match for the masters is set early December.

4 Musketeers tops Rota 3x3 tournament

By VA'INA LIZAMA
CORRESPONDENT

ROTA—The 4 Musketeers nosed out Old School, 20-19, in the men's division finals of the Rota leg of the 3x3 Hoopfest Marianas 2017 held at the Rota Gymnasium last Saturday.

Darren Santos, Victorino Mendiola Jr., Cisco Atalig, and Garry Toves Jr. played for the champion team.

"Winning first place feels good. Knowing that I put my best to work made me gain something out of the tournament, which was pretty intense. Despite it being intense, I had fun." Mendiola said.

With its title win, the 4 Musketeers along with Old School gained tickets to the final round of the 3x3 Hoopfest Marianas 2017 that will be played this weekend on Saipan at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Rota champion squad is in Pool A of the preliminary games in the final round, joining Saipan winner Ol'Aces, Almost, and Tinian's Busta. Old School is in Pool B with Saipan leg semifinalists Paki 3 and Nik Nak, and Tinian's Alpha Males.

The champion in the finale will have a chance to represent the CNMI in the 2017 Pacific Mini Games, which will be held in Port Vila, Vanuatu from Dec. 4 to 15.

Meanwhile, besides the 3x3 games, Rota also held a shootout contest last weekend with Mark Mendiola winning the "money ball." He scored seven points to beat the six of

VA'INA LIZAMA
The 4 Musketeers players pose with their medals and are joined by 3x3 Hoopfest Marianas 2017 organizers Elias Rangamar, left, and Greg Iginoef, right, during the awards ceremony for the Rota leg last weekend at the Rota Gymnasium.

MVA touts golf tourism in the Marianas

The Marianas Visitors Authority continues its efforts to grow the niche market of golfing for The Marianas with its sponsorship of the Marianas International Cup 2017 that will be held on Oct. 28 and 29 and is hosted by Imperial Pacific International.

The two-day tournament will bring together 130 golfers from Japan, Korea, China, and the Marianas to the Kingfisher Golf Links and Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

"The MVA is excited to be a co-sponsor of the Marianas International Cup 2017, which has already proven successful in developing additional golf channels for The Marianas in our source markets," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "To augment the MVA's ongoing work to attract golf groups and FIT golfers, our partnership with IPI in presenting this tournament allows us to reach a broader audience by giving our offices and travel agents in each country a special golfing event to promote our islands. In addition, it is a great opportunity for our local golfers to test their skills and show local hospitality to visitors who share their passion for the game."

The MVA's office in Japan co-sponsored a qualifying round in Tokyo in July with about 200 players joining the tournament. The Top 30 finishers were qualified to play. Players from Korea are being coordinated by Hana Tour, and IPI is also networking through several channels for players from China. The Top 20 players from The Marianas will be selected on the first day of the Club Lao tournament set for Oct. 14 and 15.

Marianas International Cup 2017 players will also be welcomed with a cocktail party at the Imperial Pacific Resort lobby, and an awards dinner will also be held. Players will compete in the Grand Champion (Double Peoria), Low Gross Men's and Ladies (1st, 2nd and 3rd), and a Country Champion (Double Peoria, 1st, 2nd and 3rd). Country prizes will be presented to each team from China, Korea, Japan, and The Marianas. Cash prizes will also be awarded, and a $10,000 hole-in-one prize will also be offered

The golf courses of The Marianas offer a variety of challenges, all with stunning views of the ocean. Kingfisher Golf Links is designed by Graham Marsh; Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort designed by Greg Norman; Coral Ocean Golf Resort is designed by Larry Nelson; and Rota Resort & Country Club is designed by Scott Fisette. The Marianas also has the Mariana Country Club in Marpi and Saipan Country Club in Chalan Laulau. ***(PR)***

Cubs beat Cardinals to clinch NL Central

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Wade wants to wear Heat jersey again, someday

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JON PEREZ
The Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, left, and the Francisco M. Palacios Baseball Field are among the sports facilities that need renovation and improvement as they will host several events in the 2021 Pacific Mini Games.

Sports tourism to diversify NMI market

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' administration is throwing its full support to the promotion of sports tourism as an added attraction in the CNMI's growing visitors market.

The CNMI government, through the Marianas Visitors Authority and its managing director Chris Concepcion, would further push for the CNMI as a haven for sports tourists by hosting a number of world-class sporting events that will feature the islands' idyllic beauty as attractions.

Torres said he met with officials of the Northern Marians Sports Association earlier this year and they had discussions on how to put forward sports tourism in the Commonwealth.

"We not only wanted MVA to put forward sports tourism in our islands, but the whole sports industry in the CNMI. Sports tourism is another market that we should look into," said Torres in an interview after signing the 2018 fiscal year budget.

Sports tourism is a $7.68-billion industry that attracts professional and amateur athletes and the CNMI is hoping to get a share of that growing market by having sports events on the islands. The Commonwealth currently hosts XTERRA Saipan, Tagaman Triathlon, Hell of the Marianas, Saipan International Marathon, Ironman 70.3, and Rota Blue Triathlon, and recently added KONQER Saipan: King of the Hill. These events drew

See SPORTS on Page 42

Lopsided victories in youth league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Kanoa Football Club player, second left, kicks the ball during an earlier boys U14 division game against TanHoldings at the Koblerville Elementary Scholl Field.

Four teams eased their way to victories in the co-ed U12 and boys U14 divisions of 2017 NMIFA Fall Youth League.

In the co-ed U12 category matches at the Hopwood Middle School Field, Matansa Football Club, MP United, and Kanoa FC-1 all had a walk in the park, while MP United also recorded an easy triumph in the boys U14 age group.

See LOPSIDED on Page 42

Brotherhood crushes Red Torch; Momma Charu wins

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Brotherhood had a pair of nine-run innings and peppered the Red Torch bullpen with 30 hits in cruising to a 31-15 victory in last Sunday's game in the 2017 Belau Masters Men's Softball League at the Dandan Softball Field.

The win was the 13th in 14 games for Brotherhood, which regained sole possession of the top spot after former co-leaders Peleliu lost to Karui, 21-10, in the other game. Red Torch remained winless after 14 matches.

Bill Aguon went perfect at the plate, going 5-for-5, to lead Brotherhood's hit parade. He blasted two home runs and had a double while also scoring five runs and bringing in a game-high five RBIs. Bill Camacho, Zackary Igisomar, and John Tomokane each went 4-for-

See BROTHERHOOD on Page 42

JON PEREZ
Momma Charu, seen here posing for a group photo, defeated Asahi in last week's games in the 2017 Belau Masters Men's Softball League to remain in the shadow of the Top 2 teams—Brotherhood and Peleliu.